

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

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World Hunger Day, October 10 —

Genuine faith is demonstrated in obedient action

By C. Ben Mitchell

Very few of us know what it is like to be really hungry. When hunger occurs, the body turns on itself and begins an ugly process of cannibalization. A person's own tissues become a source of sustaining energy until the body finally starves to death. Hunger is painful, confusing, and debilitating.

Similarly, few of us are so callous that the news of a hungry person doesn't tug at our hearts. Yet, relatively few of us are involved actively in feeding the hungry. James tells us, however, that genuine faith is one that is demonstrated — that faith expresses itself in obedient actions. Could it be that there is a deadly chasm between our faith and our works?

The apostle James would not

allow his readers to be comfortable with faith that was expressed merely in a confession, "I believe." Nor was faith to be understood solely as the acceptance of a creed, "I believe in one God." But a genuine faith was a demonstrated faith, "I believe in Jesus Christ and follow him in obedient living."

James chooses the feeding of the hungry as an illustration of genuine faith. Today, many of us would no doubt choose something more exotic or esoteric as a means of demonstrating our faith. It is much easier and less messy to talk about beautiful buildings and bulging budgets. But the most obvious expressions of our faith are simpler and more mundane — a cup of cold water, a hot bowl of

soup, a warm blanket.

James challenges us to consider a faith without obedient deeds. "If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things that are needful to the body; what doth it profit?" (James 2:15-16). How does it help the hungry person for Southern Baptists merely to talk about the plight of the homeless? How does it help the starving children in the Two-Thirds World for Southern Baptists merely to publish pictures of their morbid condition? It is a perversion of biblical faith to hear reports of hungry persons, see pictures of starving babies, and live in cities filled with the homeless,

and say, "We hope you'll be all right." Faith without obedient works is dead! Conversion from sin and communion with God are demonstrated in compassion for others.

The hurting hungry are all around us. Homeless children with their single mothers make up the most rapidly growing segment of homeless persons. These children are wasting away both intellectually and physically. The eastern

European and C.I.S. nations are overflowing with starving orphans. Dare we say to them, "be warmed and filled?" Instead, may we renew our commitment to be "doers of the word, and not hearers only" (James 1:22). Let us join heart and hand in the war against hunger. Demonstrated faith is profitable to others.

Mitchell is director, biomedical and life issues, SBC Christian Life Commission.

Missionaries in South Africa seek prayers as violence grows

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (BP) — Violence in South Africa will only get worse as the country moves toward its first multiracial election, Southern Baptist missionaries fear.

That concern has prompted the missionaries to seek an intensive prayer partnership with Southern Baptists back home.

"Our prayers are for a peaceful transition," explained missionary John Gordy, who works in the Johannesburg area. "I feel

that the majority of the people here want to live and work together in peace and harmony... even though there's so much violence and unrest."

Because of the violence, missionaries recently completed a series of conferences on ways to increase security in their homes and ministries.

And they're asking for prayer. Gordy and his wife, Pat, prayer coordinator for the missionaries, have enlisted the prayer support

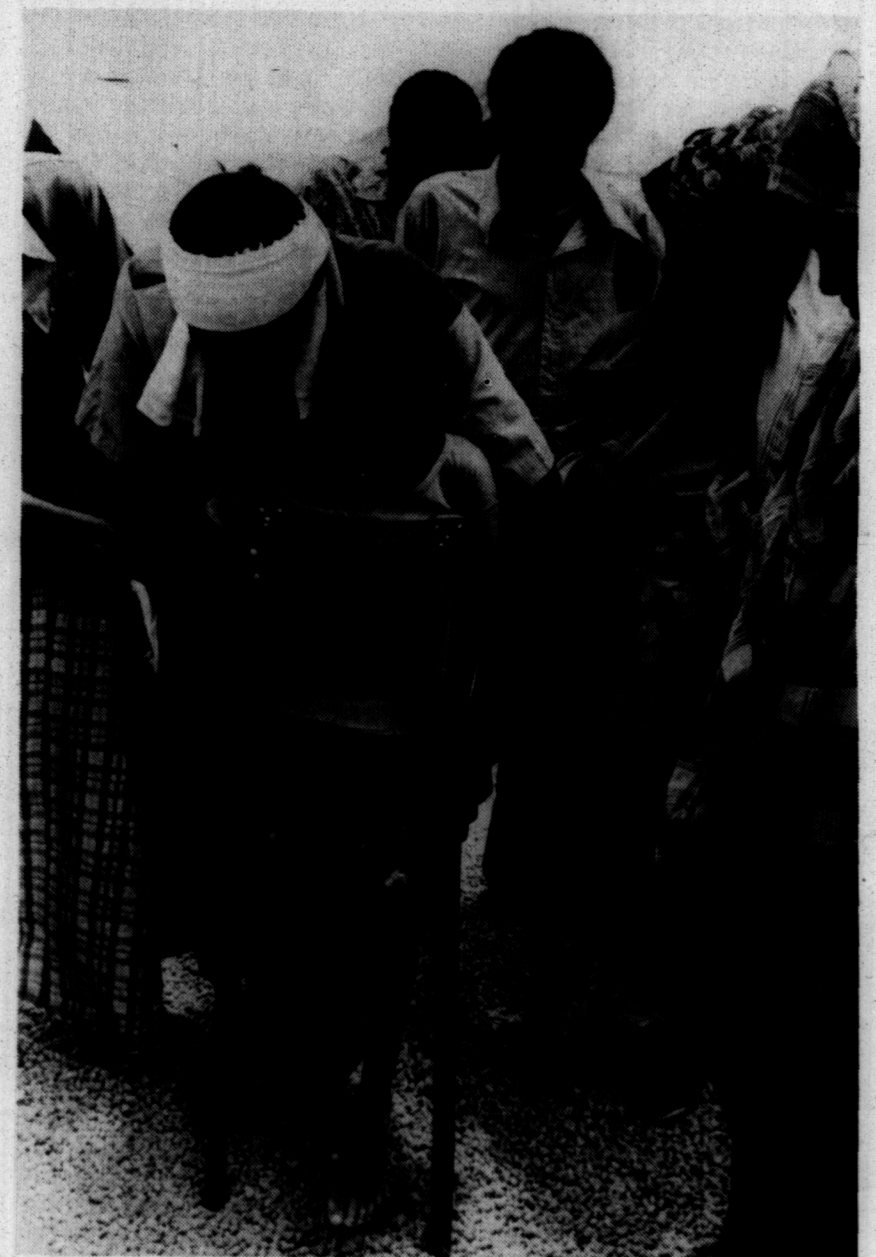
of Alabama churches through Harrell Cushing, assistant to the executive secretary for the Alabama Baptist State Convention. Cushing is a former chairman of trustees for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Cushing experienced some of the tension missionaries face when he spoke to a meeting of missionaries in South Africa in July. Awareness of the vast potential for bloodshed in the country overshadowed the meeting, he recalled.

"They were going on with business as usual, but you knew this was in the back of their minds at all times," he explained. "There wasn't a paralysis of fear. You saw they were aware God had called them there. They were going ahead with their work and yet... taking precautions and not running unnecessary risks."

One of the most critical times for prayer will come in the days leading up to April elections, which will select lawmakers who will produce a final version of the nation's constitution. In the meantime, negotiators have worked on an interim constitution the current Parliament is expected to approve in November.

Those praying need only to follow news of the current negotiations to know when to pray for peace and an end to the cycle of violence in South Africa.



Small things make a difference

Frank Weiss of Waco, Texas, adjusts a crutch which will help a crippled Somali boy learn to walk, while Steve Brawner of Wynne, Ark., watches. The two short-term Southern Baptist volunteers put together a project this summer in Kenya in a Somali refugee camp. The project provided crutches to 58 crippled people from the famine-endangered and war-torn country, the scene of the UN's Operation Restore Hope endeavor. Weiss and Brawner conducted the project with \$500 from a Georgia church and the help of the workshop of a Kenya prison. Some of the crippled had never walked with crutches before and had to be coached. Oct. 10 has been designated World Hunger Day throughout the SBC. Encourage your church to join in observing it. (BP photo by Craig Bird)

Mississippi's Partnership Missions

More Alaska requests

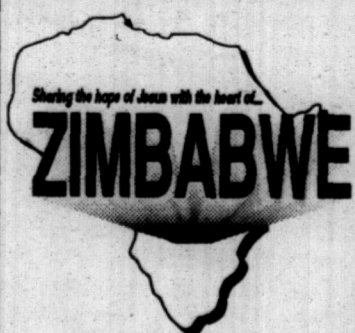
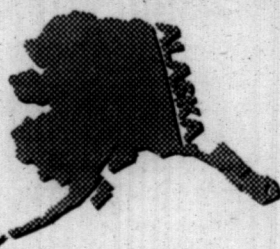
LaVerne Griffin Youth Recreation Camp has requested the following:

1. Someone to design and produce a brochure to promote the camp and the programs it provides. No funds available.

2. Single person, couple, or family to serve one year as resident camp caretaker. Three bedroom house furnished, but no monetary remuneration. No programming involved. Must be a self-starter.

Camp is located near Wasilla, 50 miles north of Anchorage.

Interested responses should be made to the Partnership Missions Office, (601) 968-3800, or P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.



EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Guy Henderson

Who are Southern Baptists?

The task of the Historical Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention is to conduct a program of recording, collecting, and preserving for study materials on the history, life, and work of Southern Baptists. The commission, now headed by Lynn E. May Jr., has endeavored to faithfully do this task since 1951. Its report to the SBC in 1993 was prefaced with this statement: "It is vitally important that Southern Baptists study and understand their history to clarify Baptist identity, to solve problems confronting them today, and to plan wisely for the new century."

In early 1993 the commission published a pamphlet entitled, "Who Are Southern Baptists?" One sentence in the pamphlet clarified more than the Executive Committee wanted clarified and created a problem rather than solving it.

The offensive sentence ended up costing Southern Baptists \$1,800 (about \$100 per word), infuriated the powerful Executive Committee, and provided amusement for several thousand moderate Southern Baptists.

What was this offensive sentence that merited such swift curtailment and was so quickly scissored out of the pamphlet? The villainous sentence was: "Some

churches also give money for missions, education, and other causes through such channels as the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship."

Is this statement true? Is it a part of Southern Baptist history?

The answer is "Yes!"

Then why did the Executive Committee deem it necessary to exercise the heavy hand of censorship? Will Lynn May now have to have the Executive Committee's approval for other writings? Is the Executive Committee of the SBC desirous of having all commissions, all pamphlets, all writings, pass its scrutiny prior to being published?

Then there is the question of procedure. The Executive Committee met the day before the SBC met in Houston, read the statement about CBF, and recommended (they hold the budget strings) that the Historical Commission discontinue distribution immediately.

However, the Historical Commission trustees would not meet until April 1994 and a decision had to be made. Trustee chairman Slayden Yarbrough and May asked the Administrative Committee to act on behalf of the trustees. He then informed the others via telephone.

Now the Historical Commission, already limping badly, pro-

ceeded to shoot itself in the other foot. Its answer in response to the demand of the Executive Committee in its September meeting was that the original edition of the pamphlet was a "statement of historical fact and not intended as an endorsement of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF)."

Pray tell why the Historical Commission cannot publish a historical fact? Of course, it does not support the CBF. The majority of Southern Baptists do not support the CBF... but the CBF is still Southern Baptist, and its actions are historical facts.

How are we to feel toward the historicity of the other seven pamphlets in this series? The answer: "As a legitimate history agency must do, the Historical Commission has treated issues with integrity... nothing more than a historical fact... not a partisan endorsement of the CBF...." Then they are reduced to a near begging stance: "Could we not have received the benefit of the doubt, in light of our past performances?"

Why bother to elect and pay for trustee meetings if the Executive Committee is going to usurp that position? Should a warning be issued to all other commissions of what could happen? Is this the tip of the iceberg in the chilling sea of censorship?

Guest opinion...

Truth and virtue

By Charles R. Wilbanks

What will the future hold for Mississippi College? The termination of Lewis Nobles will not solve all of the problems. The trustees have been aware of the direction of Mississippi College under Nobles. The good news is that Mississippi Baptists have the opportunity to determine the quality of education, the religious influence, guidance, and other services our young people will receive from Mississippi College in the coming years.

When I discussed the problems at Mississippi College in 1981 and 1982 with college and convention leadership, a caution was waived. "Would we hurt Mississippi College by talking about the problems." The "caution" is now gone and we can only help Mississippi College by trying to redirect its course.

The undergraduate school, the graduate school, the nursing school, and even the law school are great assets to Mississippi Baptists and are needed to prepare our youths, provided each school

is operated in integrity and Christian principles. However, Mississippi College does not deserve support from Mississippi Baptists, if it is to serve only the same purpose as a state college.

What are the specific problems at Mississippi College?

(1) When efforts were being made to accredit the law school, it was my understanding that a 1923 resolution of the board of trustees of Mississippi College was rescinded. The resolution had provided for preference in hiring Baptist professors. The vote to rescind was to satisfy the American Bar Association, that the law school have diversity of religions on its faculty.

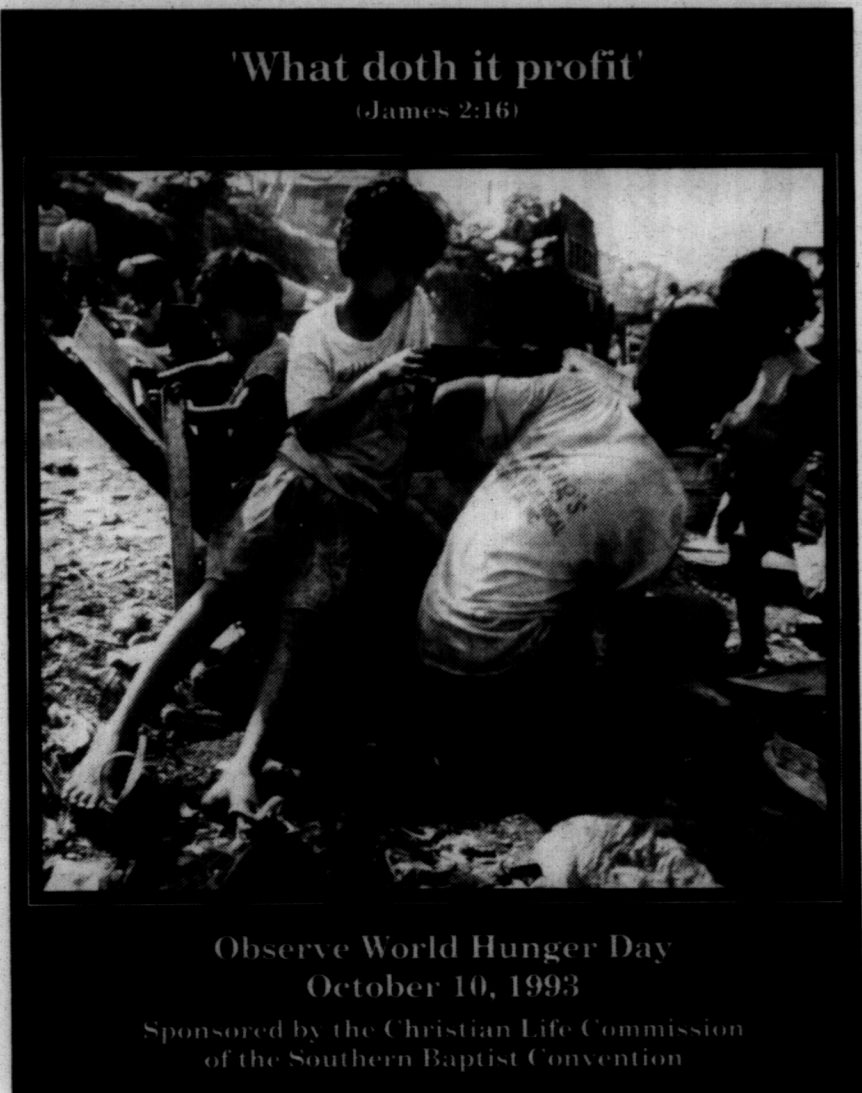
Yet, Oral Roberts University was seeking accreditation at the same time and filed a suit in the Federal District Court of Illinois against the American Bar Association. The Federal Court ruled that ORU could employ law school professors whose religious beliefs were consistent with that of ORU. MC could have taken the same

course as ORU and could have attained the "required" diversity in areas other than religion.

(2) In the undergraduate school, MC supports an enormous athletic program. Any benefits of the athletic program are outweighed by its problems and costs. Scholarships for all athletic programs, for all four classes during one academic year is very costly. The extracurricular activity has now become the core curriculum.

The athletic program should be a non-scholarship program and available for our students who enjoy sports and want to continue participating in sports after high school. MC should be competing against other schools without scholarships. The hundreds of thousands of dollars that would be saved each year should be used to reduce the high tuition at MC and to give deserving students work-related scholarships.

(3) From 1977-81, MC purchased liquor for ABA inspectors and allowed liquor to be available at some law school functions. I do



Observe World Hunger Day
October 10, 1993

Sponsored by the Christian Life Commission
of the Southern Baptist Convention

THE FRAGMENTS

Moma went to preaching

In the last few years a new and fresh emphasis has been placed on worship. Some churches no longer use "sanctuary" but "worship center." Songs of praise, Scripture, drama, testimonies, and the message are all interwoven to glorify God.

Back in the olden days it was not quite that way. We went to preaching. We only had preaching on the first and third Sundays, and they were quaintly called "preaching Sundays." No one ever asked, "Did you attend worship?" but, "Did you go to preaching?" Not "How was worship?" but, "Did the preacher do good?"

Forty years of theological instruction from her preacher son never altered Moma's vocabulary.

not know if that problem has been corrected or not.

(4) Mississippi College has lobbied the Mississippi Legislature for tuition grants and participates in Federal Grant programs to the extent allowed by law. We questioned this practice, if we still believe in separation of church and state.

(5) One of the philosophical discussions at MC that troubled me a great deal was the attitude that MC was independent of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. A "good appearance" attitude was prevalent so that the college would

Even when 90 she would say, "Didn't go to preaching, son, just didn't feel like it."

Proclamation is of divine importance. It pleased God "by the foolishness of preaching" to save those who believed and "faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God" (Rom. 10:17). Hopefully we attend church to worship our Creator, not to praise the preacher.

C. Welton Gaddy, in *The Gift of Worship*, declares that "worship is a gift of response to the invitation of God, who, in the act of redemption, demonstrated that every disciple should live as a member of a community of faith."

The pastor is our worship leader who proclaims God's Word to us.

— GH

not lose financial support of the convention.

Hopefully, many of the problems involving lack of honesty and integrity have been solved by the changing of administrations. However, the trustees who have seen the direction of the college over the past 15 years, and those who owe an allegiance to the president of the college for their appointments as trustees, cannot redirect Mississippi College in the correct path.

The method of selecting trustees has in the past been wrong. (See TRUTH on page 9)

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Senate rejects public funding of abortions

WASHINGTON (ABP) — The U.S. Senate rejected Sept. 28 an attempt to lift all restrictions on public financing of abortions for poor women.

The Senate defeated, 59 to 40, an amendment offered by a Senate panel to lift restrictions on federal funding of abortions. Instead the Senate adopted a modified version of the Hyde amendment.

Named for Rep. Henry Hyde, R-Ill., the Hyde amendment has banned federal funding for abortions except to save the life of the mother. The new version, approved by the House in June, adds exceptions in the cases of

rape and incest.

Anti-abortion advocates maintain that members of the public who are morally opposed to abortion should not be forced to subsidize them. Abortion-rights advocates counter that such provisions are discriminatory to poor women who are financially unable to exercise their constitutional rights.

Although the ban remains part of the Departments of Labor and Health and Human Services Appropriations Bill (H.R. 2518), observers predict the abortion-funding debate will continue as Congress begins to grapple with the issue of national health care.

Cooperative Program gifts up for month, down for '93

NASHVILLE (BP) — Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program receipts for the SBC 1992-93 fiscal year totaled 1.23% below the previous year although September gifts were above the month for the previous year, according to Morris H. Chapman, president and chief executive officer of the SBC Executive Committee.

"It is encouraging to see the monthly Cooperative Program receipts above the previous year for the third month in a row," Chapman said. "Although the totals for the past year are down slightly, it appears there is a positive trend which would certainly help the 1993-94 year."

Total CP gifts for the fiscal year, ending Sept. 30, were \$136,539,729 compared to the pre-

vious year's total of \$138,234,734 or a decrease of \$1,695,005. The year end totals also missed the budget requirement of \$140,200,395, or 2.61% below budget.

Designated gifts, however, were also up for the month of September, compared to a year ago, with \$1,725,343 received compared to 1992 September of \$1,672,470 which is a 3.16% increase. Total designated gifts for the 1992-93 year were \$127,036,370 compared to 1991-92 of \$127,916,369, or a .69% decrease.

Adding designated and Cooperative Program gifts together for the 1992-93 year, the total of \$263,576,100 compares to the 1991-92 fiscal year of \$266,151,104 or a .97% decrease in total gifts.

September gifts up, CP totals still losing ground

Gifts from Mississippi Baptist churches through the Cooperative Program totalled \$2,044,079 in September, according to Bill Causey, executive director-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

September 1992 gifts were \$1,953,081, or \$90,998 less than for September of this year.

Gifts had not totalled more than \$2 million in any one month since last December when

\$2,198,114 was tallied.

January through September of 1993 gifts total \$16,092,992, which is \$104,335 (or .65%) more than that given for the same period, 1992.

Pro rata giving — that is, the total budget of \$22,452,000 divided by 12 and multiplied by the number of months elapsed in the budget year, would be \$16,839,000. This means that the 1993 Cooperative Program budget is down by \$746,008 (or 4.43%).

Graham, Chapman address inaugural

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP) — The inauguration of R. Albert Mohler Jr. as president of Southern Seminary will feature messages by evangelist Billy Graham and Southern Baptist Executive Committee President Morris H. Chapman.

Graham will speak at a community worship service Oct. 14 hosted by the Louisville, Ky., seminary in celebration of Mohler's inauguration. Graham is no stranger to Southern Seminary. The school's center for world evangelism and an endowed professorship are named in his honor. Chapman will deliver a charge to the candidate Oct. 15 in Alumni Chapel. Following the inaugural service, renowned theologian Carl F. Henry will address a luncheon for faculty and guests. Henry is an author and was founding editor of Christianity Today.

Due to the anticipated large crowd, the event has been moved off campus to Freedom Hall, Louisville's largest auditorium. The service also will include comments by Kentucky Gov. Brereton Jones and Tim McCoy, pastor of Ingleside Church in Macon, Ga.

Mohler began duties as seminary president Aug. 1.

THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

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Missionaries meet in Moscow as political struggle continues

MOSCOW (BP) — Bloody fighting between protesters backing communist lawmakers in Russia and government police backing President Boris Yeltsin broke out just as Southern Baptist missionaries

from various republics of the former Soviet Union were preparing to meet in Moscow.

As the violence continued, missionaries and Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board Vice President Sam James gathered in Moscow Oct. 4. Their meeting reportedly preceded the annual meeting of the federation of Baptists for former Soviet republics.

The federation was formed last year after the breakup of the Soviet Union. Its representatives include leaders of Baptist unions in the former Soviet republics that have become autonomous.

As fighting became bloody, the Baptist union in Russia released a statement written to Yeltsin. Its details were not yet available Oct. 4, but Baptists have communicated their support to Yeltsin in recent months as he has battled the strongly communist Parliament to sustain religious freedom in Russia.

In Moscow, missionaries were to participate in the dedication of

a Baptist building Southern Baptists have helped fund. James has overseen the rapid movement of missionaries and money into the region as it has opened up following the demise of official communism.

"There can be no forgiveness" of Parliament leaders, "because they have lifted their hand... against Russia...."

— Boris Yeltsin, from AP reports

Yeltsin and other reformers have endeavored to remake government more in the mold of democracy, but found their efforts stymied earlier this year as communist

forces began to prevail among lawmakers. Yeltsin dismissed Parliament Sept. 21 after it

blocked his efforts to move ahead with new elections and a new constitution — both overwhelmingly backed by Russians in a nationwide referendum.

Violence broke out after a standoff between Parliament members who holed up in the Russian White House, where Parliament meets, and Yeltsin, who refused to use force to remove them. Without electricity or utilities, the dissenters used wireless phones to garner support.

Anti-Yeltsin protesters broke through police lines and attacked government offices Oct. 3. Yeltsin called in special military forces, which began methodically crushing the armed opposition in the early hours of Oct. 4.

Baptist personnel escape Indian earthquake's wrath

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Southern Baptist personnel and Indian Baptists who work with them escaped harm during last week's earthquake in India, which killed at least 20,000 people.

Bangalore Baptist Hospital, where Southern Baptist missionary physician Rebekah Naylor works, is about 500 miles away from the earthquake site. Naylor, of Fort Worth, Texas, is the only Southern Baptist missionary now living in India, although itinerant mission-

aries and volunteers travel in and out.

Because of the long distances between Baptists and the devastated area, mission administrators do not currently plan to initiate relief operations. However, the Foreign Mission Board's prayer office has sent out calls for prayer for those suffering the effects of the quake. The prayer office also has devoted all of this week's telephone Prayerline (1-800-395-7729) to calls for prayer for India.

Clinton health plan may hike SBC costs without any extras

By David Winfrey

ATLANTA (BP) — President Clinton's health care reform plan could cost Southern Baptist agencies more while providing similar or less coverage, say employee benefits specialists at the convention's three largest agencies.

While tempering their remarks with a wait-and-see attitude, representatives of the Home and Foreign Mission Boards as well as the Baptist Sunday School Board expressed concerns the agencies and their employees may not be better off with the president's plan.

"I think it's a lose-lose situation," said Butch Savage, manager of the Sunday School Board's compensation and benefits section.

Savage said his preliminary studies show Clinton's plan to fund the program with a 7.9%

payroll tax would cost the BSSB more than it currently pays for health insurance. Meanwhile, employees with better coverage than the government plan might have to pay taxes on their extra coverage, he said.

The Home Mission Board, which is currently self-insured, would "roughly break even" with a 7.9% payroll tax, said Daniel Garcia, director of the board's human resources division.

Garcia said one of his main concerns is the government's ability to control its administrative costs.

"Currently, the board spends about \$7.5 million a year for the benefits program, and that has been increasing over the past years rather steadily," Garcia said. "One of the selling points of this plan is

employers will get some control of their costs."

But Paul Wong, manager of salary and benefits for the Foreign Mission Board's Richmond office, questions whether the government can fund all it intends to offer with the proposed payroll tax.

"We are not very optimistic it can stay at 7.9%," Wong said.

"There have been numerous studies to analyze his (Clinton's) plan, and they pretty much conclude that the cost will be higher for the employer than the 7.9% payroll tax."

While there may be few new benefits, parts of the plan are quite similar to employees' current cost and coverage, said Garcia and Savage.

Winfrey is associate director, News and Information, HMB.



Flea market for missions

Mississippi Baptist Medical Center's BSU will hold a flea market to raise money for student summer missions on Thursday, Oct. 14, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Each year the hospital's gift shop donates items to the MBMC's School of Medical Technology and Radiography for this cause. Students pictured from left, are: standing, Kay Sills and Sherri Williamson; seated, Aimee Harper, Jo Flowers, gift shop manager; Janet McAdory, and Chris Griffing.

Europeans to move Ruschlikon seminary

KISHINEV, Moldova (ABP) — The council of the European Baptist Federation has approved a comprehensive plan for the Baptist Theological Seminary at Ruschlikon, Switzerland, that will move the seminary from the campus it has occupied throughout its 44-year history.

The EBF council, which represents Baptist bodies throughout the continent, voted unanimously to move the seminary to an undetermined site outside Switzerland. Two of the locations under consideration are Berlin, Germany, and Prague, in the Czech Republic.

"We are very pleased with these decisions," said seminary President John David Hopper. "Although we remain emotionally attached to the Ruschlikon campus, we are happy to carry the excellent educational tradition of BTS into a bright, new future."

The Ruschlikon seminary, now owned by the EBF, has been in financial distress since 1991, when the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, which founded the school, withdrew all funding because of alleged liberalism. The seminary property, on the shores of Lake Zurich, is valued in excess of \$17 million.

Winter Bible Study Oct. 12 will feature look at Book of Hosea

The 1994 Winter Bible Study (formerly January Bible Study) workshop will be held Tuesday, Oct. 12, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Baptist Building in Jackson. The study for 1994 is Hosea: God's Redeeming Love.

The workshop, sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board Sunday School Department, will feature Waylon Bailey, adult leader teacher, and Bob Metcalf, youth leader teacher.



Bailey



Metcalf

Bailey is chairman of the Division of Biblical Studies at New Orleans Seminary. He also serves as pastor of First Church, Covington, La. He holds degrees from Samford University and New Orleans Seminary. He is the author of three books and has written numerous articles and Bible study guides for denominational journals and publications.

Metcalf is media design editor in the church growth-Sunday School

division of the Baptist Sunday School Board. He previously worked as a Sunday School youth consultant for the BSSB. He holds degrees from East Texas Baptist College, Marshall, and Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. He has held ministry positions with churches in Arkansas and Texas.

Deadline for registering for the workshop is Oct. 11. The cost is \$5 per person for lunch and should be included with registration information. Books and materials related to the study will be available at the conference.

To register, call (601) 968-3800 or send name, address, home and work telephone numbers, church name, and payment for lunch to: Sunday School Department, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Please make checks payable to Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Retired USAF general selected to lead state's gambling agency

By William H. Perkins Jr.

Paul A. Harvey, assistant to the president of William Carey College in Hattiesburg, is headed to the Mississippi Gaming Commission as executive director, according to commission chairman Stuart C. Irby Jr. of Jackson.

Harvey, 56, is a retired U.S. Air Force two-star general whose last military posting was as base commander of Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi.

He also served as wing commander at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware and as inspector general at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois. He holds degrees from Miami (Ohio) University and Central Michigan University.

Harvey, who has no experience in the gambling industry, waged an unsuccessful campaign in 1992 for Mississippi's Fifth Congressional District seat, presently held by Gene Taylor.

Jim Edwards, president of the Baptist-affiliated college, said, "I am firmly opposed to gambling, which, I believe, is consistent with the position held by the vast majority of Mississippi Baptists. I was surprised to learn of General Harvey's decision.... However, my view does not prevent me from saying that the State of Mississippi is fortunate to have a person of General Harvey's integrity to head the regulatory arm of the gambling industry."

"Certainly, an industry that has such inherent evils needs a man of General Harvey's independence and leadership to strengthen its regulatory arm," Edwards added.

Legislation mandated that the Gaming Commission split from the Mississippi State Tax Commission on Oct. 1 to become an independent agency.

doing double-duty as the state's gaming commissioners.

Fordice appointed Stuart C. Irby Jr., of Jackson, as chairman. W.W. Gresham Jr. of Indianola and Bob Engram of Gulfport were also appointed by Fordice to the gaming commission.

The new commissioners apparently decided to offer the position

to Harvey early on the morning of their first day on the job, and they approved his appointment during their first formal meeting on Oct. 5.

Mississippi Gaming Commission

W.W. Gresham Jr.
Indianola

Stuart C. Irby Jr.
Jackson
(Chairman)

Bob Engram
Gulfport

The legislation also called for Gov. Kirk Fordice to appoint three new gaming commissioners to take charge from the state's tax commissioners, who had been

Winters memorial set Oct. 9 at First, H'burg

Frances Weaver Winters, 85, professor emerita of music at William Carey College, died Sept. 29. Private graveside services were held Oct. 2. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Oct. 9 at First Church, Hattiesburg, where she was a member.

Winters and her husband, the late Donald Winters, were founders of the School of Music at WCC. Her special academic interests included children's choir methods, Christian worship, hymnology, and vocal pedagogy. She served on the school's faculty from 1958 to 1974.

Winters' specific contributions to Carey include: instigation of the music school's graduate program in 1970; acquisition of the Clarence Dickinson Collection of Church Music; and formation of WCC's chapter of Delta Omicron, a national professional fraternity for women.

From 1941-43, the Winterses served on the staff of First Church, Atlanta, Ga., where they established the first graded choir program among Georgia Baptists.

While her husband was in the army (1943-45), Winters laid groundwork for the School of Church Music at Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky. They served in Louisville until 1952. From 1952-56, they were at Indiana University in Bloomington, where he was a doctoral student and she worked as undergraduate coordinator/advisor to the dean of the school of music.

She was a graduate of Denison University, Granville, Ohio; Westminster Choir College, Princeton, N.J.; and did graduate study in social work at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. In 1977, Carey awarded her an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters.

She is survived by two sons, Donald Eugene of Petal and John Andrew of Englewood, Colo.; a brother; and four grandchildren.



Winters

Accommodations available to convention messengers

Messengers planning to attend the 1993 Mississippi Baptist Convention have a variety of hotels and motels from which to choose near downtown Jackson. Below is a partial list of facilities located near the convention site, First Church, Jackson. Prices do not include tax.

Admiral Benbow Inn, 905 N. State St., (601) 948-4161; \$28 for single (one or two people), \$42 for double and king-size bed.

Cabot Lodge, 1-55 North at County Line Road, Ridgeland, (601) 957-0757; \$56, single standard, \$60, king-size bed; \$8 per additional person.

Cabot Lodge, State Street at Woodrow Wilson, 2375 N. State St., (601) 948-8650; \$54, single

(two double beds), \$57, king-size bed; \$6 per additional person.

Coliseum Ramada Inn, 1-55 North between Pearl and High streets, (601) 969-2141; \$53, single, \$60, double; \$63, king-size bed.

Edison Walthall Hotel, 225 E. Capitol, (601) 948-6161; \$52, single, \$62, double; \$8 per additional person.

Holiday Inn Downtown, 200 E. Amite St., (601) 969-5100; \$54, double, \$58, king-size bed; \$10 per additional person.

Red Roof Inn, 1-55 at High St., (601) 956-7707; \$42.99, single.

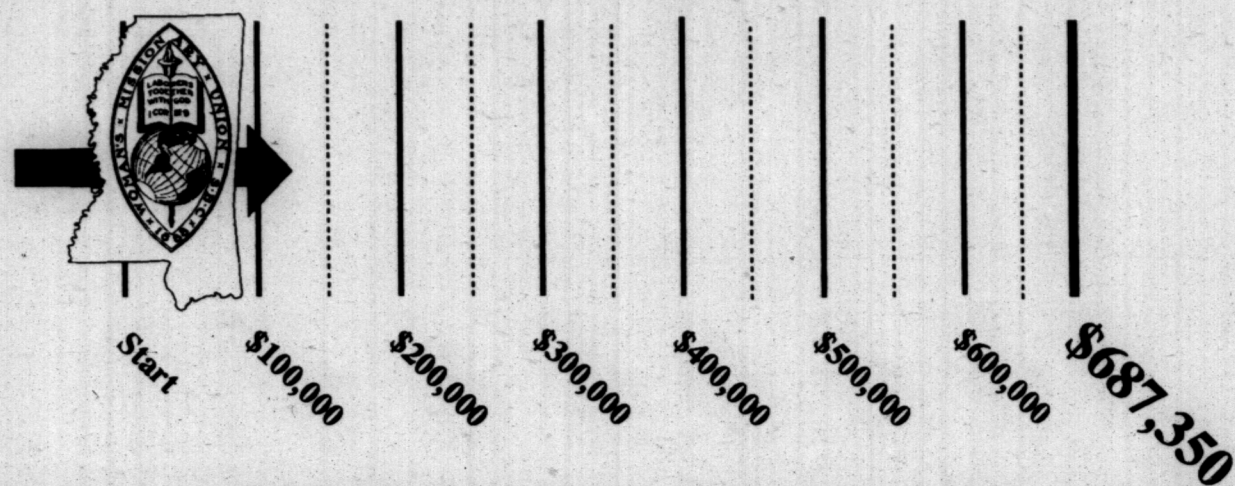
The Wilson Inn, High St., (601) 948-4466; \$34.95, single, \$39.95, double; \$5 per additional person.

Churches adopt Expanded Annuity Plan

The following churches have adopted the Expanded Annuity Plan since those reported in the Aug. 5 issue of *The Baptist Record*: Franklin: Springhill; and Pearl River: White Sand.

Margaret Lackey Offering for State Missions

Goal : \$687,350
Current : \$123,016



Hospital chaplain's job involves long hours, offers many rewards

By Al Carden

First of a two-part series

It's 2 a.m. Tuesday morning; my telephone rings. The hospital operator is calling to inform me



Carden

that a severe accident has taken place and the family will be needing me. I begin to pray for patient and family as I begin the 18-minute drive to Mississippi Baptist Medical Center (MBMC) in Jackson. When family members are contacted at 2 in the morning, one can imagine how they must feel, awakened from sleep and told to come to the hospital. Many thoughts race through their minds, hoping their loved one will be all right.

I've experienced it again and again. The family has gathered in a designated room to await the doctor's report on their loved one. Even though I know the patient has died, I cannot relay the message. It is the doctor's responsibility to bring such news.

When the doctor enters the room, I usually prepare myself for the reaction, which varies from family to family and group to group. I have observed reactions from quiet weeping to hysteria. I have seen families storm out of the hospital seeking quick revenge,

and families with overwhelming confidence that their loved one was safe in the presence of Christ the Lord.

When family members are given the opportunity to donate parts of their loved one's body so another person can benefit, as a chaplain I'm present as they make those decisions.

Most of the time, the thanks I receive from families in traumatic situations come because I was there—not that I did anything heroic, but that I felt the need to be there for them.

Death is a natural part of hospital life, and grief accompanies death. Perhaps the greatest task we will ever attempt is grief-work. When clouds of depression roll in seemingly from nowhere and yet from everywhere, it is important to remember Jesus was a Man of sorrows, acquainted with grief.

A year ago last April my mother died. Grief has taken me from the heights and plunged me to the depths. I have a tender place in my heart for anyone who loses their mother. Often when I am called to the bedside of a patient who has died, especially if that person is the mother of those in the room, I find myself weeping along with them.

I believe there is a certain strength in those tears. I encourage people to weep during times of grief. People who internalize their grief often get sick themselves.

By the time I return home, it's

5 a.m. I must make a special effort to return for a 9 a.m. meeting of the Restorative Care Hospital. I am chaplain of this self-contained facility which serves the long-term needs of patients who spend 25 days or more in the hospital. I work to meet the needs of those patients and their families with individual visitation and family group meetings.

Wednesday morning arrives to the sound of "Code 99" over the hospital public address system. Code 99 is a signal that emergency measures are underway to resuscitate a patient who has stopped breathing. The emergency room staff plus many other hospital personnel arrive to bring their training and expertise to the life-saving procedures being undertaken.

The chaplain's role during these anxious moments is family support and communication. The chaplain serves as a liaison between the high-tech nature of lifesaving measures and family members overwhelmed with the news their loved one is fighting for life.

It's 7:30 a.m. Sunday morning, and preparations have been made for a chapel service televised throughout the hospital at 8 a.m. After the service is concluded, an additional service is often conducted for patients of the MBMC Chemical Dependency Unit.

People ask me what church I serve. I tell them the hospital is my church. Its people are my congregation.

Carden is chaplain at MBMC and interim music director at Castlewoods Church, Rankin Association.

House approves non-profit postal-rate reform measure

WASHINGTON (ABP) — The U.S. House of Representatives approved Sept. 29 a measure that would incrementally raise the postal rates for state Baptist newspapers this month and for the next five years.

By a narrow margin of 207-206, the House approved an appropriations bill (H.R. 2403) that would result in a 12% increase for second-class non-profit publications and a 12-18%

increase for third-class non-profit mailers that would be phased in over a six-year period. This year non-profit mailers would face about a 2% increase.

Brian Hummell, assistant director of the Alliance of Non-profit Mailers, projected the rate increase would become effective Oct. 24.

President Clinton is expected to sign the bill if it is approved by the Senate.

Thursday, October 7, 1993

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5

Children's Village accreditation OK'd

The Baptist Children's Village, with five locations in the state of Mississippi, has just received its third Certificate of Accreditation from the Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children, according to an announcement by Ronny Robinson, executive director of the agency.

The Baptist Children's Village has campuses in Independence, Water Valley, Jackson, Brookhaven, and Wiggins; and serves children and families from every county in the state. In 1992 the Village ministered to nearly 500 different boys and girls.

"Accreditation, which is for a four-year period, attests that an agency has met a set of nationally established requirements which help ensure quality service" said David Shover, council executive director.

"Accreditation provides assurance," he said, "that the agency is performing services which the community needs, conducting its operations effectively, and managing its funds wisely."

The procedure involves a detailed examination of the agency's operation which includes

a self-study by the agency and a visit by a team of reviewers.

The council, supported by the National Association of Homes and Services for Children, the Association of Jewish Family and Children's Agencies, Catholic Charities USA, the Child Welfare League of America, Family Service of America, the Lutheran Social Ministry System, the National Council for Adoption, and the National Foundation for Consumer Credit, accredits private voluntary and proprietary agencies as well as local direct service public agencies. It accredits over 590 agencies in the U.S. and Canada and is the only independent accrediting body providing quality assurance over a broad range of family and children's services.

"The Baptist Children's Village is proud that we have met, once again, the criteria for re-accreditation by the National Council on Accreditation," said Robinson. "This further assures that the Baptist Children's Village continues to provide the best care and services for Mississippi children and their families."

Miracle grants second chance at life, ministry to former Mississippian

By Frank Stiedle

Only the Lord Jesus can birth a new spiritual life within our old bodies, and only he can work the miracle of allowing a second physical life. Such is heart transplant recipient James E. Pugh Jr.

The 51-year-old Mississippi-born pastor is returning from his present home in Florida to preach revival meetings at Lone Pine Church, two miles off Ratliff Ferry Road on Lone Pine Road in Madison County. Services will be held Oct. 7-8 at 7 p.m., and Oct. 10 at 10:40 a.m.

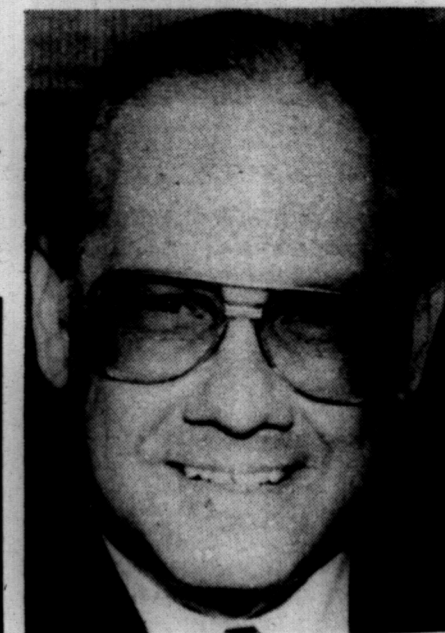
This will be the first revival effort for Pugh since his transplant in December 1992, but he has been preaching as often as requested. He presently pens the "Dear Pastor" column in a widely-read tri-county newspaper in Florida and Alabama, and the editor consistently gives report of the high volume of mail received.

Pugh attended Clarke College, graduated from Mississippi Col-

lege, and attended New Orleans Seminary. He has pastored several churches in Hinds-Madison, Holmes, Clarke, and Jasper associations, as well as in Arizona and Florida. His father pastored Mississippi churches for over 40 years, until his death in 1992.

Throughout the long months of illness, surgery, rejection, recovery, and relocation, Pugh and his wife Martha have remained "steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord." Truly, "his mercy endureth forever."

Stiedle is a deacon at Lone Pine Church, Hinds-Madison Association.



Pugh

Prayers for Jane Medaris, wife of Alaska pastor Gene Medaris, have been answered!

Mrs. Medaris, who suffered a heart attack Sept. 5 (Baptist Record, Sept. 16), was in a coma for 12 days. She is now in a private room. Doctors told the family on Oct. 4 that an angiogram showed no damage to the heart and no blockage.

This has come about because of "a prayerful response of God's people," said Medaris, who is pastor of First Church, Valdez. "Christ is being glorified through this."

The Mississippi/Alaska Partnership involved 69 Mississippi Baptists in a building project at the Valdez church this past summer.

The Medarises may be contacted by calling (907) 562-2211.

Part of the Partnership —

Chicago Little Villagers baptize two in Lake Michigan's waters

By Anne McWilliams

"Look, here is water. Why shouldn't I be baptized?" Then Philip baptized the eunuch beside the desert road, after he had told him the good news about Jesus.

"Look, here is water," Pastor Apolonio Hernandez points out toward Lake Michigan, and he tells his congregation about Philip and the eunuch. A dozen or so leave a grassy knoll in the park, climb down concrete steps, and cross a narrow beach. They are members of Little Village, Mexican mission of Uptown Baptist Church, Chicago.

The pastor is a missionary to the Spanish, Illinois Baptist State Association. He and his wife, Miriam, wade until the cold blue waves begin to break about their waists. Between them walk two to be baptized — Marcella Lopez, a woman who made a profession of faith two months ago, and Ubia Estrada, their young granddaughter who made a profession of faith two years ago. Both Marcella and Ubia have been diligently studying Baptist doctrines, to be ready for this event. Marcella's little boy, who recently had surgery to straighten a twisted foot, waits at the top of the hill.

"What a friend we have in Jesus," members sing as they follow the others into the water, knee deep. Though Hernandez speaks in Spanish, I am sure he is saying, "I baptize you, my sister, in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost."

Far out on the lake, the white yachts and sailboats knit together the blueness of sky and water. As these two are "raised to newness of life," I am thinking, "The newness is like the freshness of the breeze across the lake."

Earlier I heard the children sing, "Go Tell It On the Mountain." Their director is the daughter of Carlotta Ramirez, who drove us to the all-day church picnic. ("Us" includes Velma Morrison of Poplarville, Ann Maniscalco of Ocean Springs, and me.)

Naomi Montalvo, summer missionary from New York City, interprets for us — the Spanish songs, services, and conversations. Naomi, college junior, tells me she was born in Ecuador, and that she hopes to spend her life in a ministry to the Spanish-speaking.

Across the park, a miniature collie chases a stick. Under a tree Ofelia Hernandez is grilling steaks to be wrapped in tortillas. Children swim while the food cooks. Carlotta offers me a refreshing drink of rice water (rice, sugar, water, cinnamon sticks soaked overnight, strawberries added). A young man, seated on the grass, plays a guitar. Some sing along. A quilt spread on the ground for the babies looks like a good place to nap. Instead, the pastor stretches out on the grass and closes his eyes.

What fellowship! No one rushes home; all just relax and enjoy the day together. "A small congrega-

tion is like a family," someone says.

As we eat, I think of Jesus and his disciples by the lakeside, feeding the 5,000. Could there be more than 5,000 hungry people in the city over there behind us? Perhaps. And one of them is approaching us now. He is dirty, bewhiskered, wearing wrinkled jeans and T-shirt, and a black cap. He is young, and he asks for food. "If I asked over there," he nods toward the city — "they might arrest me."

One of the Mexican women prepares for him a plate, heaping, and gives him an orange drink. "Thank you and God bless you," he says, and goes aside to sit under a small tree while he eats.

Later Lindsay Cobb, area missionary, tells us that this man is probably one of Chicago's homeless who live in old warehouses in cage-like spaces. "It's the lowest level of poverty," he says. "From there, there's usually no way out." They have no money to better their appearance; with the downtrodden way they look, they cannot get a job, even if there were one. "Some die there," he added.

It is time to leave for the train station. Nearly sundown. Embraces we receive on departure are the kind only those of Latin temperament can give! The love we feel for these Little Villagers is the kind that only Christ can kindle.

McWilliams is former associate editor, THE BAPTIST RECORD.



LifeAnswers

Ron Mumbower, Ed.D.
Minister of Counseling
First Church, Jackson

My wife is more interested in going out with her friends than being with me. What is wrong with me? We have been married for 10 years and have two small children.

In our society, we are known for the multitude of choices we have. Marriage is being put on the back burner for a lot of couples today.

After 10 years of marriage and two children, your wife may be feeling worn out and looking for some new spark. Her friends may provide this for her.

To withstand these pressures, a couple needs to continue to "date" one another. Look for ways for the two of you to get away for a nice dinner, a ride in the country, or a picnic in the park.

Your initiation would be a great incentive, but if the first response is "no," keep trying.

Your role as a husband is to court her and try to understand her uncertainty. Spend time listening to her, be sure to affirm her, and show appreciation for what she has done.

I am a single mother with a nine-year-old son. My son's

father is not very consistent in his visitation, and the boy is becoming very angry at me. He is harder and harder to discipline. What should I do?

A boy of nine desires to move away from childish things and begins looking for ways to become a man.

He is angry because the man he most wants to be around — his father — is not there. Realize this and allow your son to vent his anger. When he blows up at you, try to reframe the anger to feelings of hurt.

Also, get him around other men — relatives, Royal Ambassador leaders, coaches — who are godly examples and will love your son.

Lastly, find ways to rejuvenate yourself so that you will have the energy to stand up to his outbursts. When you are tired, your response is weakened.

He is a normal nine-year-old, but if the situation persists you might want to express to his father your son's needs and expressions. If his father won't listen, look for surrogates who can give you assistance as you train up this child in his "natural bent."

Send your counseling questions to LifeAnswers c/o The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Please be brief. Name and address not required. Remember: in time of crisis, your pastor can make recommendations on your counseling needs.

Our oldest readers respond...

Mrs. Nora Miller of Calvary Church, West Point, is a Baptist Record reader at the age of 96 years young.
Walter H. Frederick, pastor

I will be 90 years old on Nov. 15. I live alone, am healthy, but I can't sit long at a time. I enjoy The Baptist Record very much.
Alice Brown
Calvary Church
Jackson

I'm proud of the ones that get this paper out and the value it gives me when I read it. I keep up with what Baptists are doing all over the world. I keep up with a number of pastors that we have known through the years. I was reading The Baptist Record

when Bro. Odle was in the Baptist Building. It was in the '20s or '30s when I started reading the paper. I'm 84 years old now, so I have been with The Baptist Record a long time, and I read it from cover to cover now. I enjoy the letters most. Thanks for doing such a good job.
Janey Morris McCool

I am 87 years old. I have been reading The Record for over 50 years and still look forward to getting it every Thursday.
J.L. Holland
Zion Church
Meadville

We would like to submit the names of Mr. and Mrs. M. C. McDaniel of Clinton as two of your oldest readers. Mr. McDaniel is 98 years old and Mrs. McDaniel is 99 years old (will be 100 in February, 1994). They both have read The Baptist Record throughout the years and Mrs. McDaniel continues to read it every week. They are the parents of six children, and one of their daughters, Anise Brock, has been the organist for First

Church, Moss Point, for many years. Their son Major is a retired missionary to Korea. We, too, enjoy The Baptist Record. (Mr. McDaniel died Oct. 2 of heart failure.)

The J.T. Hannafords
First Church, Moss Point

I am 82 years old and go to Union (Covington) Church, I was church treasurer for 35 years, starting in 1951. I did all the sending in payment for The Record and news from the church. I have been reading The Record some 60 years. Mrs. Janie Yawn is 82 and also goes to Union Church. She has been reading The Baptist Record a long time.

Lucy Trigg
Seminary

I will be 91 next Jan. 9. I'm a deacon of Pinecrest Church, Florence. I have been reading The Record for 21 years.

J.W. Collins
Florence

In response to your request for senior readers, I am submitting my mother. Her name is Gladys Field, First Church, Grenada. She

is 100 years old and still reading — not as avidly as in past years — but remarkably well for her age.

Grace Buehler

"Mama Burnham" (Mrs. John Burnham, Sr.), Forest, was 94 on May 17. She reads The Baptist Record "Kiver-to-Kiver."

Irene Martin
Forest

Just a note to tell you I am one of your oldest readers of your paper. I was 86 on July 7. I especially enjoy the writers of the Sunday School lessons.

Lucille J. Clark
Enterprise

Yes, you do have readers of The Baptist Record who read and value the information in The Baptist Record. I am 80 years old. My birthday is Dec. 2. Thank you.

Ernestine Wright Berry
Nations
Newhebron

My grandmother, Mrs. R.V. Howard of Greenville, was 93

years old on Sept. 6, and enjoys The Baptist Record.

John Hanbery
Clinton

I was born March 29, 1904, in Kansas. I've been to several places in my time, but my home is Vaiden now.

Edith S. Elsten
Vaiden

I am 86 years old and have read The Baptist Record for many years. I would just like to say that I very much disapprove of our Baptist preachers talking politics in the pulpit. God's Word reads to lift up people and not put them down. Let's pray for Clinton and all the leaders of our country that they can make America a better place to live.

Lee Knight
Jackson

My father, Melvin Chrestman, age 85, reads The Baptist Record every week. He is a deacon and faithful member of First Church, Houlika.

Alice Clark
Houlika

(More next week)

Can you top this?

HouseTops

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light: and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the housetops. Matthew 10:27 NAS

October 7, 1993

HouseTops is a supplement to the **Baptist Record** and is produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

For your prayer time...

from the Prayer Ministry Office, 'Wilda Fancher, Coordinator

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Cooperative Services International (CSI) is one of the organizational components the Foreign Mission Board uses to minister to the unreached people groups of the world—a segment sometimes called World A. Lewis A. Myers of the Foreign Mission Board is pleased to share some of the reports from last year's work.

CSI sponsors 364 personnel who live in 32 countries and target 52 people groups composing some of the least evangelized and most restricted peoples in the world. This past year 75 new churches and 235 new home groups were begun. Work was begun among 12 new people groups. This is a thrilling story of the movement of God's spirit and His work of grace.

Many of these new Christians are at great personal risk. It is not unusual for believers in these restrictive settings who identify with Christianity to do so at the threat of bodily harm or death. Yet 75 new churches emerged.

Most of the leaders of these new groups are new Christians themselves with very little training. They lead with conviction and enthusiasm but with limited biblical knowledge.

Please join us in praising God for what He has done, in praying that this all powerful God will sustain these new believers in times of persecution and threat, and in committing these eager leaders to the care of the God of wisdom.

We are grateful for your praying. These messages are changed Mondays and Fridays. Please keep in touch with this Prayerline for additional worldwide prayer concerns.

You may receive helpful information like this by calling 1-800-395-PRAY and listening to the Foreign Missions Prayerline.

HOME MISSIONS

Steve Brubaker is pastor of Orion Oaks Baptist Church in Orion, Michigan. Pray for the growth of the church. It is one year old and attendance runs in the upper 20's.

Pray for two Bible studies that Steve started in September at Chateau Orion Mobile Home Park, where he and his family live. Pray for good atten-

dance and for residents to be open to the Bible study. Pray for a core group to come from these studies.

If you would like to write Steve and tell him you are praying for them, his address is 13 Bluebird Hill, Orion, MI. 48359.

You may receive helpful information like this by calling 1-800-554-PRAY and listening to the Intercessory Prayerline of the Home Mission Board.

CLOSER-TO-HOME MISSIONS

Soon campus ministers will receive 1994 Journeyman

materials which explain how a college graduate may serve two years overseas with our Foreign Mission Board. The number of requests for Journeyman exceeds the number who are willing to serve. Pray that this year it will be different, that Mississippians will respond.

You may receive helpful information like this by calling 969-7729 (we will soon have an 800 number) and listening to the Mississippi Baptist Prayerline.

You may also share your prayer requests after listening to the recordings. ☐



SMALL CHURCH LEADERSHIP TRAINING CONFERENCE

Mississippi College
October 16, 1993
9 a.m. - Noon

♦ PASTORS:

Causey's Uniform Method of Church Leadership

A management style that will endure. An orderly progression of shared ministry as God leads His people.

♦ CHURCH MUSIC:

Music Leading Made Easy, Easy

Practical helps you can use this Sunday to bring alive your praise in song! Five Practical Lessons for Church Pianists Lessons you can use to expand your musicianship.

♦ DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING:

DiscipleAll: A Discipleship Training Manual

Discipleship training does not just happen. Commitment and planning begins with leadership.

Handbook for Youth Discipleship

Methods and strategies to meet the needs of your youth, help them grow in Christlikeness.

How to Guide Children

A good teacher understands the teaching-learning process. A good teacher learns how to use materials at hand.

Preschoolers A Church Administrative Packet

One life, one chance to be a preschooler. Touch and mold lives..... a ministry and a trust from God.

♦ BROTHERHOOD:

Leading Baptist Men

Leading Royal Ambassadors

Lead a growing and dynamic

Program that touches the lives of men and boys who in turn reach out to their neighbors and the world.

♦ WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION:

Share the Vision

You can make a difference in the lives of others. Missions involvement in your community

♦ SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Sunday School Outreach-Evangelism Handbooks (for age-groups)

Ideas for reaching adults, youth, children, preschoolers...

Choosing projects...

Leaders who make it happen! (see Sunday School section of the Small Church Leadership Conference on back of HouseTops)

BSU SUMMER MISSIONS

1993 Student Summer Missionary Testimonies



ELLEN SMITH - Wyoming
DSU

This summer was the best of my entire life, and I would do it again right now. God taught me more about myself and how to trust Him than ever before. It was so awesome to see God working and taking care of me all summer. It's amazing, but I feel like I got much more out of the summer than I could have ever given. Summer missions is definitely an awesome way to serve the Lord! I encourage you to **Go For It** and apply. Remember, "God's will never leads where His grace cannot keep you." If He calls you to go this summer, He will provide and supply your every need.

GREGORY WOODWARD - Arizona
USM

My summer was an incredible experience. God blessed the ministry continually throughout the summer, and I learned and grew a lot. One of the most important things I learned is that we, as Christians, must be real. It's not just about "telling people about Jesus." Our thoughts, actions, words, and everything about us must point to Christ. Truly we should seek to be more like Christ daily. Of course, this does include telling people about Jesus. As Christians, every day is an opportunity to serve Christ. I miss so many opportunities because of my sin, laziness, apathy, and failure to focus on Christ. Truly summer missions helps us realize every day is an opportunity, and we need to seek to serve Christ every day for the rest of our lives.



JUDY JENKINS - Washington, D.C.
HCC

My summer missions experience has meant so much to me. God really has organized my prayer life. He taught me so much about homelessness and their special needs that only God can heal. He used me to help in the healing process. I pray now that I am home, I will see the needs of others, not just homeless people but people on my campus, and reach out to them the way God wants me to. If anyone is thinking about summer missions, continue to pray. I am praying for you also.

STEWART MOODY - Colorado
MC

To be quite honest, I was unsure about what to expect, but at the same time I was very excited about what was going to happen. Well, to put it the best way I know how, I had a great time experiencing God. God is awesome. I learned so much and grew in more ways than I could have ever imagined. It was exactly what I needed, and I feel that everyone should have this experience.



GO • FOR • IT!

CONTACT THE BAPTIST STUDENT UNION FOR INFORMATION



CHILDREN AND TRENDS OF THE 90's

by Helen Price
WMU Consultant
Mississippi Baptist Convention

The 90's will bring significant changes in values, beliefs, lifestyles and opportunities. Christians have a responsibility to respond intelligently to the world around them. By being forward-looking in our thinking, we can become effective change agents, rather than affected, changed agents. Old approaches won't fit the new challenges. Americans want to be loved, to make a difference, to attain security and comfort...but we have these nagging doubts about ever reaching these goals. Our work is cut out for us. Rich kids, middle-class kids, and poor kids deal with risk and neglect on a scale unimagined in previous generations. We like to think of America as a child-centered nation, in that they are cherished, protected, nurtured, and offered opportunity unmatched anywhere else in the world. Closer inspection reveals a shift toward the devaluation of children. We slash school budgets, build adult-only housing, and deny working parents the right to spend a few weeks with their newborn babies. Other trends and forecasts are just as frightening. American children know little about the world they live in, and they do not possess the many skills necessary to be productive in our society. Telecommunications and computers will continue to effect change. Children's abilities will be enhanced by their use, therefore, innovative teaching styles will need to be adopted. Yet, the most important common problem emerging is the destruction of our environment. Children will need to be taught a deeper appreciation and care for the world God created. The arts and sports are competing for leisure activity; trade, travel, and television seem to be laying the groundwork for a global lifestyle. There is an increasing need for the church to be teaching children Christian values and how to make choices. Social issues will tend to focus on individual human worth so children will need to be taught about God's purpose for the family also. Then with the various worldwide religious revivals (not necessarily Christian), it will be imperative that our children are taught about the love of God through Jesus Christ. Committed individuals, organizations and congregations can make life better for millions of children in the 90's. □



Forty-two chaplains and wives met at Twin Lakes Conference Center in Florence to hear John Yates. Yates sang, played the trumpet, and used ventriloquism to share Christ with these caregivers in Mississippi. The Association of Chaplains will share in a banquet on Nov. 16. George Pickle of the Home Mission Board will speak to the group.

For more information about the Mississippi Baptist Chaplains Association, contact Richard Brogan, Cooperative Missions Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205. □



ALASKA CAMP IMPACTED BY MISSISSIPPIANS

Gordon and Dot Shamburger spent about 4 weeks in Fairbanks, Alaska this summer. Gordon, retired Chaplain of Mississippi Baptist Medical Center, was asked to supply for Paul Wells, pastor of Friendship Baptist Church, while he was on vacation.

Not only did the Shamburgers help Friendship, but they also aided in the Tanana Valley Baptist Associational Youth Camp near Big Delta, 100 miles south of Fairbanks. They taught during one week of the camp. The picture above depicts a much needed faculty housing building that is under construction. The camp director will also occupy part of this building when completed. At present, funds are depleted and construction must wait on the provision of materials to complete. The association conducts five weeks of camp in June and July each year. A number of children and youth find Christ as Savior each season.

Anyone interested in assisting with the Tanana Valley Associational Camp in 1994 should contact the Partnership Missions Office, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205. or call 601/968-3800. They will need bible teachers, counselors, a nurse, recreation leadership, construction crews, etc.

Partnership Missions Office
September 23, 1993 ☐

Youth Evangelism Conference

"God is Not Silent...Are You Listening?" is the theme of this year's Youth Evangelism Conference, Dec. 27-28, at the Mississippi College Coliseum in Clinton. The program, sponsored by the Evangelism Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, will feature Ken Smith, evangelist and pastor at large for First Church, Starkville. Others on the program will be Neil McLendon, Anna Hutto, Point of Grace, and Mog and Wog (that stands for Man of God and Woman of God--a husband and wife drama team). The meeting begins at 2 p.m. on Monday and concludes at 3:40 the next afternoon. ☐

SENIOR ADULT AWARENESS



*This
better
be good!*

CONFERENCES November 1993

- Discover your Senior Adult Ministry's potential
- Helps in beginning or improving your Senior Adult Ministry

NOVEMBER 1
10 A.M.-2 P.M.
FBC, Batesville
Calvary BC, Tupelo

NOVEMBER 4
10 A.M.-2 P.M.
Central BC, Brookhaven
West Laurel BC, Laurel

NOVEMBER 2
10 A.M.-2 P.M.
FBC, Yazoo City
FBC, Louisville

NOVEMBER 5
10 A.M.-2 P.M.
FBC, Gulfport

COST: \$12 for lunch and the book *How to Minister to Senior Adults in Your Church*, by Horace Kerr. Contact the Discipleship and Family Ministry Dept for details at 968-3800/ P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.

LEADERS:

Dale Oden, Temple Baptist Church, Ruston, La.
with Horace Kerr as host

Richard Luebbert, FBC, New Orleans, La.
with Robin Nichols as host



November 11-13 and 18-20

Thursday and Friday - 6:00 p.m.- 9 p.m.

Saturday - 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Special training offered for those interested in
Parchman Prison Ministry

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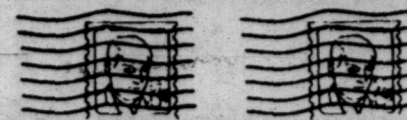
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HOUSE OF



Letters to the editor



Appreciates his flock

Editor:

I'm writing this letter to let the readers of *The Baptist Record* know what a "very special" church I have the privilege of pastoring.

I have been pastor of Pilgrim's Rest Church in Attala County since September 1989. It has been four of the most rewarding years of the 23 years I have been a pastor. I have been a bivocational pastor since 1973. God has blessed my family and me very much. For every frustra-

tion and disappointment, there are many more joys.

Pilgrim's Rest Church would be a "model" church if they were recognized. Our people are generous and always ready to help meet the needs of people in the community. Pilgrim's Rest is also generous in love offerings and honorariums for special guests. This is one of the many reasons God has blessed our church. Our church people have a sweet spirit that gets response from all who visit. We have had 21 additions in the last four years.

I let my church family know that I love them and deeply appreciate their faithfulness. I would recommend to every pastor: Tell your people that you love them, no matter what size your church. If we as pastors don't love our people, and if our people don't love their pastor, we need to re-evaluate our ministries. When a pastor and a church love one another, and tell each other, it can only be a good church.

I am grateful that the Lord placed me in a good church. I ask all who read this: Pray for us that

God will continue to use us in his vineyard.

Thank you, Pilgrim's Rest, for being the way you are.

Walter Hines, pastor
Pilgrim's Rest Church
Ethel

Supports fellowships

Editor:

Our Baptist leaders have been very wise in supporting and encouraging the organization of mission fellowships within our state convention. Christian men and women give their time and resources to serve our Lord in this special way.

I would like to make all retired Baptist educators aware of the Mississippi Baptist Educational Mission Fellowship (MBEMF) and to invite those interested to be a part of this group.

Our fellowship has not been in existence very long, but I believe our future ministry will be helpful in spreading the good news of Christ by doing home mission projects as well as going to foreign countries to teach, to conduct Bible schools, or serve in some other special way.

The next meeting of MBEMF will be during the Lay Missions Conference which will be held at the First Church in Jackson on Nov. 15, at 3 p.m.

We urge any retired educator who has an interest, or would like more information about our group, to attend. Anyone will be blessed by hearing from those who have already been involved with mission projects.

Bill Rieves, president
MBEMF
Tupelo

Warns of error

Editor:

As an attorney practicing primarily in Chancery Court in Hinds County, I want to advise readers of *The Baptist Record* of a misimpression created by Michael McManus in his article on divorce (Sixth of a 7-part series, published Sept. 16).

McManus outlines a scenario in which a man who runs off with a paramour forces sale of the family home and takes half the value of its equity. It may be true that in some states one spouse can "unilaterally" terminate a marriage and force a settlement without the other spouse's consent, but that is not the case in Mississippi unless the party withholding consent is guilty of one of the "fault" grounds. It is important that people are aware that just because one party wants a divorce doesn't mean that a divorce can be obtained.

I have found in my practice that many people believe once one party wants a divorce, there is nothing much that can be done to prevent it. Information such as contained in McManus' article fosters that misimpression. While it may be true that in the overwhelming majority of such cases nothing is likely to be done to repair the broken marriage (it takes two to do

that), a party not legally at fault does not have to agree to a divorce, particularly to his or her financial detriment.

There can be little doubt that the no-fault divorce procedure undermines the concept of marriage as a sacrament. While I was a member of the Legislature, attempts were made periodically to amend the no-fault statutes to make the procedure unilateral, but were wisely defeated.

Once a divorce is under way in our state, the Chancery Court judge who requires strict proof of fault, and who acts in the best interest of minor children of a marriage, is in the best position to preserve some semblance of respect for holy matrimony.

Bill Singletary
Clinton

Takes it personally

Editor:

I was aware of the incidents to which Don McGregor referred in your Sept. 16 "Letters" column. These incidents, of like genre, are most disturbing to me and make me feel somewhat like Uriah.

All of these incidents, at some of which denomination-wide decisions were made, were heavy-handed abuses of authority by the powers that be, and not at all in line with the principles of Scripture or even Baptist polity. The first incident, in which the Executive Board [Committee] of the denomination decided to take over Baptist Press, and the other incidents, at Mississippi College, were of general interest to the public and of particular interest to Mississippi Baptists.

My feeling is that it was not just the press representatives who are denied access but that I, personally, and Baptists in general were excluded, because the press is, as Don pointed out, our only entree into these meetings.

I understand the need for executive session, but not the need to use executive session or police power to hide the dark deeds of those who have been invested with our trust and authority. (It's almost enough to make one consider alternate ways of giving.)

Bobby Moore, pastor
Morgan City Church
Morgan City

"Light" is misnomer

Editor:

Please don't let the people who don't know any better read the "Lite" Bible (*Baptist Record*, Sept. 23). Like light food or fast food, it just will not satisfy. I am even afraid of the Living Bible and all books like that. The Holy Bible is the living Bible inspired by the Holy Spirit and we get the message with power. I am afraid of this nation losing the Holy Spirit's power. So many "easy-to-understand" Bibles are being written. Prayer is the key to understanding the Holy Bible, not easy-to-understand translations.

Walterine Atkinson
Philadelphia

HEALTHCARE

FOR THE RECORD

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With its history and tradition in the Christian healing ministry, Mississippi Baptist Medical Center offers comprehensive health care services and programs while fostering an atmosphere of spiritual comfort and healing.

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All of MBMC's five full-time chaplains have either master's or doctoral level seminary degrees and have completed high-level practical clinical training at major medical and pastoral counseling centers. Like physicians, MBMC's staff chaplains rotate call so that a chaplain is available to patients and families any time of the night or day.

In addition to serving the patient community, hospital chaplains lead Bible studies and services for the medical center's employees, providing MBMC health care professionals the benefit of spiritual support.

MBMC Outreaches Church Community Via New Education Program

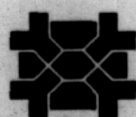
Lay persons and ministers from across the state may benefit by participating in MBMC's first Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) program introduced earlier this year.

This continuing education program is specially designed for those ministering to people in crises, focusing on the unique demands of a hospital setting or health care crisis. The basic program for clergy members is designed to provide a caring, compassionate program that goes beyond books to provide practical experience in a hospital setting.

This cross-denominational course of study is taught by Dr. Jack Follis, a certified CPE supervisor and chaplain of East Mississippi State Hospital in Meridian. Dr. Paul Stephenson, MBMC's director of pastoral care, and Dr. Joe Stovall, assistant director of pastoral care, team with other MBMC chaplains to assist in training the CPE students. Applications are now being accepted for the January 11 program.

MBMC serves as an important resource for ministers as they seek to strengthen the health care and hospital visitation aspects of their ministry.

For more information about MBMC's Pastoral Care Department and the new continuing education program for clergy, please contact Dr. Paul Stephenson by calling (601) 968-5146.



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Just for the Record



First Church, Lucedale, recently held its Acteen Recognition Service with the theme, "God's Beautiful Bouquet." Pictured, front row, are Abbey Bennett, Brit-tany Bailey, Rachel Wilson, Lindsey Gardner, Whitney Martin, Sara Sigler, Willie Dunnam, Brett Nelson,

Brantley Pierce, Jairus Bernard; second row, Jennifer O'Neal, Robin Platt, Alison O'Neal, Jeana Conner, Brandy Barrow, Amy Holland, Ashley Turner, Christina Curd, Alesha Hempstead, and Rosemary Roberts. John Turner is pastor.

The Mid-South School of Evangelism and Church Growth will be held Oct. 14-16 at New Orleans Seminary. This is a learning experience designed to equip ministers and laity for total church growth. The registration is \$25 per person. Ken Hemphill, Jim Henry, Chuck Kelley, and Darrell Robinson are the speakers. The conference is sponsored by the Louisiana and Mississippi Conventions. Call the Sunday School Department at the Baptist Building for information, 968-3800.

The Sims Brothers of Star will be the guests of **First Church, Harrisville**, on Oct. 10, at 10 a.m. They will also be in concert at **Clear Branch Church, Florence**, at 1:30 p.m. on the same day. They will be hosted Oct. 30 by **Pearlhaven Church, Brookhaven**, along with the Magnolia State Quartet, at 6 p.m. On Oct. 31, they will perform at the **West Jackson Church, Jackson**, at 11 a.m. and at the **New Zion Church, Harrisville**, at 6:30 p.m.



Marcus Alexander, pastor of Calvary Church, Braxton, has baptized seven sets of twins in his ministry. He recently baptized Jay and Ray Keys (above, front). Whenever he baptizes twins, he immerses them together.

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The William Carey College Winters School of Music will hold a choral workshop on Oct. 15-16 featuring Helen Kemp, clinician. The workshop is planned for church, elementary, and secondary school music specialists. A registration fee of \$10 is required by Oct. 8. For more information, call Linda Valentine at 582-6175.

Springfield Church, Morton, will have a fall roundup starting at 5 p.m. on Oct. 9. The Duncan Sisters will sing at 7 p.m. High attendance Sunday will be Oct. 10.

The Heritage of Mississippi Series, sponsored by the Mississippi Historical Society, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, with grant assistance from the Mississippi Humanities Council, has recently commissioned a volume of Mississippi's religious heritage to be written by Professor Randy Sparks of the College of Charleston in South Carolina. A board of editors, chaired by former governor of Mississippi, William F. Winter, will select authors for the series.

Terry Road Church, Jackson, will host a "buffalo buffet" Oct. 10 at noon. The program will celebrate the anniversary of Pastor Henry J. Bennett's 50th year in the pastorate. He has spent 44 of those

years in Hinds/Madison Association. The day will also mark the dedication of the church's new Sunday School annex. The church has built the annex debt-free. Guest speaker for the day will be Fred Tarpley, retired director of missions for Hinds/Madison Association.

Pleasant Hill Church, Olive Branch, will hold a special morning service Oct. 10 with Charles Baker, senior vice president of Baptist Hospital, as guest speaker. Lunch will follow the service at noon, and an afternoon singing with The Layman quartet will begin at 1 p.m. Lewis Ferrell is pastor.

Emmanuel Church, Grenada, will host a basic organ seminar Oct. 12, 6:30-9 p.m. The seminar is sponsored by the Grenada Association, and will be conducted by J. Barry Worrell, associational music director. Fee is \$20, which covers the cost of a manual taught by Gordon Pfund, organ representative.

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First Baptist, Jackson. Cassettes \$10 + tax. CD's \$15 + tax. Call: (601) 956-0409.

CHURCH PEWS FOR SALE: Twelve 14' and two 10' oak pews w/out cushions. New Hope Baptist Church, Leakesville, MS 39451. (601) 394-5119. Make an offer.

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Staff Changes

Glendale Church, Leland, has called **Keith Dendy** of Woodland as pastor effective Aug. 1. His previous place of service was Montevista Church, Eupora. He received his education at Blue Mountain College and is attending classes at the Clinton Center of New Orleans Seminary.

Antioch Church, Columbus, has called **Ted Wright** as youth pastor effective Aug. 29. A native of Senatobia, he was a member of Fairview Church, Columbus, and was in the Air Force. He is currently working on a degree in Biblical Archeology at Mississippi State University.

Easthaven Church, Richland, has called **Roy J. Maine Jr.** of Terry as pastor effective Sept. 26. A native of California, his previous place of service was interim pastor at Country Woods, Jackson. He received his education at William Carey College and Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville, Fla.

East Side Church, Pelahatchie, has called **Doug Till** as minister of music and youth effective Sept. 12. He is a native of Pelahatchie.

Wade Church, Pascagoula, has called **Bill Barton** as pastor. He and his wife, Jean, established the Homes of Grace in 1965. During his 28 years with the Homes of Grace, he was interim pastor of 32 churches. He pastored the Jackson Avenue Church, Pascagoula, for seven years.

Danny Holland, pastor of **Chesterville Church, Lee County**, for 4 1/2 years has had to resign because of health problems. He has pastored churches for 30 years in Lee, Monroe, Winston, and Chickasaw Counties. Holland and his wife, Barbara, are now living at 157 Larry Webb St., Saltillo, MS 38866.

First Church, Pontotoc, has called **Scott Rogers** as minister of youth effective Aug. 15. A native of Corinth, he received his education at Union University in Jackson, Tenn. His previous place of service was New Hope Church, Dyer, Tenn.

Springfield Church, Morton, has called **Lori Little Schuler** of Kosciusko as minister of music and youth effective Sept. 12. Her previous place of service was Springdale Church in West. She is a student at Mississippi State University.

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YOUR BRIDGE TO THE WORLD

TRUTH

From page 2

The president of the college has made it known to the Education Commission who he wants as trustees. The commission recommends to the convention and the convention elects trustees recommended without question.

In a letter to the then-chairman of the Education Commission dated Nov. 23, 1981, I stated: "... I do not wish to give up on the school (MC) until I have made every effort to save the school from what I believe is a sure and certain crisis."

The reply of the chairman of the Education Commission, in his letter to me dated June 23, 1984, was: "I was requested to advise you of the unanimous conclusion

of the Education Commission that the concerns which you state about the school of law of Mississippi College lacked sufficient merit to be pursued further."

My opinion is that 1993 is the time to act strongly to redirect Mississippi College. It may be the only opportunity you and I will have in our lifetime to make a substantial change. At this point, we cannot possibly hurt Mississippi College by openly discussing the problems and taking the necessary action. However, such action will require a grassroots, messenger-supported effort to the 1993 Mississippi Baptist Convention. To see "truth and virtue" at Mississippi College will be worth the effort.

Wilbanks is an attorney practicing in Corinth, and a former MC School of Law faculty member.

Names in the News

A.R. Fagan, a native of Richton and president-treasurer of the Stewardship Commission for 20 years, will retire effective Sept. 30, 1994. Fagan considers Florida his home. In Florida he was pastor of churches in Boca Grande, Sebring, Orlando, and Bradenton. He served Florida Baptists as chairman of the state board of missions and as president of the state convention.

The annual William Carey

Lectures at William Carey College will be held on Oct. 11 at 9:30 a.m. and Oct. 12 at 11 a.m. Featured speaker will be **Ruth Tucker**, visiting professor of missions at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, Ill. The lectures seek to focus on the life of the man William Carey and his work as linguist, scholar, and missionary.

Rollin S. Armour, a historian of religion, will inaugurate the R. Glen Eaves Lectureship in European and English History at Mississippi College on Oct. 11. A professor in the Department of Christianity at Mercer University, Macon, Ga., Armour will speak on "Patterns in the Christian Response to Islam" at the B. C. Rogers Student Center at 7 p.m.

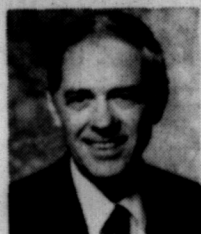
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Thursday, October 7, 1993

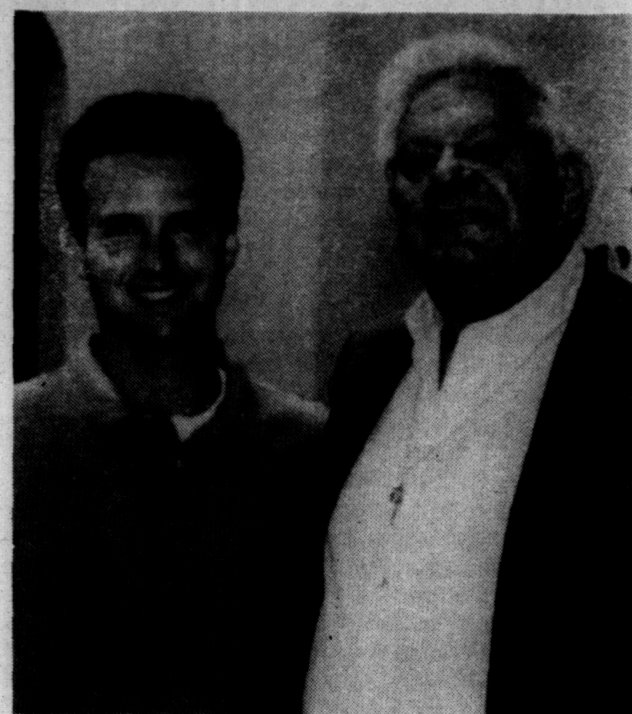
BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 2

Names in the News

Henry Crouch, former pastor of Woodland Hills Church, Jackson, and Providence Church, Charlotte, N.C., will preach at Woodland Hills Church, Sunday morning, Oct. 10, and Sunday evening Vespers at Northminster Church, Jackson, at 6 p.m. Crouch was a founding board member of the Baptist Seminary in Richmond, Va., and after his retirement from Providence Church, has served in the area of development for the seminary.

Gary Young, 57, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church of Phoenix the past 19 years, died Sept. 20 in Phoenix. He was diagnosed with lymphoma 20 months ago but was pronounced in remission following chemotherapy. He suffered a relapse last month. He previously served as pastor of churches in Missouri and Oklahoma and as associate pastor or youth director of churches in Texas and Oklahoma. Survivors include his wife, Doris; daughter, Jima, of Orlando, Fla.; and son, Jeff, of Phoenix, Ariz.

The Illinois Baptist State Association board of directors elected **Gene Wilson** of Riverside, Calif., as the next IBSA executive director during the board's regular meeting Sept. 14 in Springfield, Ill. Wilson, 49, is director of missions for Calvary-Arrowhead Association in the Los Angeles area. He will succeed Maurice Swinford in the Illinois post. Swinford will lead IBSA until his retirement at the end of October. Wilson will become executive director-elect as of Oct. 15, then take over full responsibilities Nov. 1. A native of Arlington, Texas, Wilson was elected 59-2 by the board of directors.



Steven Barnett of Clinton has been named the first recipient of the Jerry Clower Scholarship Award at Mississippi College. Barnett, above left, is a senior and son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Barnett. He was selected for the award on the basis of his leadership abilities and performance contributions with The Naturals singing troupe at MC.

Homecomings

Damascus, Flora: Oct. 10; worship services, 10:45 a.m.; dinner on the grounds, noon; William E. "Sonny" Bradshaw of Yazoo City, pastor, speaker.

First Church, Vidalia, La. (near Natchez): Oct. 10; former members are invited; Richard Lusk is pastor.

Siloam, West Point: Oct. 10; 11 a.m.; covered dish at noon; J. B. Miller, Colombia, Tenn., guest speaker; Avery Jones, pastor.

Glading, Magnolia: Oct. 10; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; dinner in fellowship hall at noon; singing, 1 p.m.; The Joyful-tones, guest singers; Charles Kirkfield, pastor.

Brewer, Richton: Oct. 10; 10:50 a.m.; Ray Allen, Vicksburg, guest speaker; covered dish in fellowship hall; singing, 1:30 p.m.; The Called Out of Quitman, guest singers; Michael R. McLendon, pastor.

Center Grove, Meridian: Oct. 10; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; T. E. Williams, Quitman, guest speaker, dinner on grounds, noon; singing, 1:30 p.m.;

Mary and the Old Timers, Pennington, Ala., guest singers; Edd Hollo-man, pastor.

Harrisville (Simpson): Oct. 10; worship, 10 a.m.; George Lavern Lewis, Florence, guest speaker; covered dish in fellowship hall, noon; Sims Brothers and Dear Sisters, both of Florence, guest singers; Dennis Allen, pastor.

New Goodhope, Pulaski: Oct. 10; 10:30 a.m.; Bob Smith, Cash Church, guest speaker; covered dish in fellowship hall, noon; The Revelations, guest singers, 1:30 p.m.; Paul Smith, pastor.

Mt. Vernon (Leflore): Oct. 10; worship, 11 a.m.; covered dish lunch in fellowship hall, noon; afternoon singing; Billy Bob Guest, guest speaker; Larry McDaniel, pastor.

Spring Hill (Marshall): Oct. 10; 9:45 a.m.; regular Sunday

morning services; covered dish lunch, noon; singing in afternoon; Lee Powell, pastor.

First, Coldwater: Oct. 10; 119th year; John Perkins, director of missions, Northwest Association, guest speaker at 10:45 a.m. worship service; Perkins formerly served as missionary to France; dinner in fellowship hall following worship; musical program at 1:30 p.m. will feature guests from Bellevue Church under the direction of Tommy Lane, minister of music, Coldwater, Robert E. Maddux, pastor.

New Hope (Lawrence): Oct. 10; Cliff Amos, former interim pastor, guest speaker; worship at 11 a.m. with lunch afterwards; musical program at 1:30 p.m.

Mt. Pisgah, Enid: Oct. 10; Cooper Barton, guest speaker for 11 a.m. service; lunch at noon and singing to follow.

Revival Dates

New Hope, Starkville: Oct. 10-14; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; 7 nightly; Jerry Smith, Memphis, evangelist; special music each night; Bob Brandon, pastor.

Providence, Cleveland: Oct. 10-13; Mike Smith, Marks, evangelist; Troy Sandifer, Clarksdale, music; 7 p.m. nightly; Eugene Walden, pastor.

New Hope, Carthage: Oct. 10-13; Sunday, homecoming, Sunday School, 10 a.m., worship, 11 a.m., and covered dish lunch in fellowship hall at noon; revival services begin Sunday night following Discipleship Training at 6 p.m.;

Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Stanley Barnett, Philadelphia, evangelist; Bobby Barfoot, pastor.

Southside, Aberdeen: Oct. 10-14; Bobby Shurden, Hattiesburg, evangelist; Ed Sudduth, Augusta, Ga., music; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Thurs., noon with lunch and 7 p.m.; Kenneth Walters, pastor.

First, Brandon: Oct. 10-13; 9 a.m., 10:20 a.m., and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 11:45 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Gene Williams, Atlanta, evangelist; William A. Cox Jr., Nashville, music; Gene Henderson, pastor.

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Uniform His way is best



By Michael O'Brien
Genesis 16

Not too many years ago there was a popular song on the charts by Frank Sinatra called, "I Did It My Way." "My way" is the attitude of much of today's world and is the root of much bitterness.

The problem (vv. 1-3). The perceived and real problem in this text are two different things. Abram and Sarai thought the problem was the absence of a baby. God had promised a son to Abram (15:5), but the couple, now late in years, was still childless. Sarai's answer to the situation was to offer Hagar, her Egyptian slave girl, to Abram. Sarai's suggestion was common during her day as a means to assure that the family line continued. With Abram's agreement, the plan was carried out (v. 3).

The real problem, however, was a lack of faith on the part of Abram and Sarai. The result of their plan will show that they are clearly out of God's will. Keep in mind, God's plan will always be better than man's plan, even when we cannot see the end result in what God is doing.

The result (vv. 4-6). The relationship between Sarai and Hagar apparently had been pretty good up to this time. But when Hagar learned that she was with child, whatever relationship they had enjoyed was destroyed (vv. 4b, 6b). Sarai blamed Abram who in turn blamed Sarai (vv. 5-6a). Finally, the tension got so great that Hagar left (v. 6b).

Let me say again, God's plan is ALWAYS better than man's plan. When we override God's plan and go our own way, you can rest assured the results will be disastrous.

God visits Hagar (vv. 7-12). God found Hagar out in the desert near a spring of water (v. 7). He told her that she must return to her mistress and submit to her. He then explained what her son's future would be like (vv. 11-12) and gave her his name, Ishmael, which means "God hears." Through Hagar's experience, we learn that we cannot flee from God. He is ever aware of our innermost needs and offers his support and blessing.

Hagar's response (vv. 13). Hagar's experience taught her something about the nature of God because she described him as "the God who sees" (v. 13). The author of Genesis (Moses) adds a postscript which notes that the well "was called Beer Lahai Roi," which means "well of the Living One who sees me." Prayer is more than the monologue of a wounded spirit. Rather, it is the dialogue between man and God, a dialogue in which God reveals himself and assures us that he sees us.

God's promise fulfilled (vv. 15-16). In this case, God was keeping his word not to Abram, but to Hagar. She gave birth to Ishmael when Abram was 86 years old.

Has someone you really trusted made a promise and then broken it? I am afraid that I am guilty of doing it myself. With all-good intentions, I have promised to do something and then failed to do it. I am never happy with myself when I do it, and I am disappointed when someone else fails to keep a promise made to me.

Do you know that God always keeps his word? You can search the Bible from Genesis to Revelation and you will never find a reference to when God failed to keep his promise.

What was Sarai's sin in giving Hagar to Abram? Her society did not condemn her for what she did. However, God did, because she failed to trust him in fulfilling his promise. God's faithfulness and concern for life is seen in his preserving Hagar and her unborn child. All life is precious to God, the born and unborn.

Just a reminder: As we feed on God's Word for our spiritual growth, let us also remember that Oct. 10 is World Hunger Day. Why not make an extra offering above your tithe to your church and designate it to world hunger relief?

O'Brien is pastor, First Church, Lexington.

Bible Book Moses' address: the law



By Jewel P. Merritt
Deuteronomy 5

Today we begin the study of Moses' second address. Many consider these words to be the very heart of Deuteronomy. In these chapters (5-28), Moses repeated the Ten Commandments and stressed the importance of God's people living holy lives. God's children should take on the family characteristics of our Lord.

The summons to obey the law (vv. 1-5). Have you ever attended a meeting and sat through it wondering why someone had thought it necessary? In verse 1 Moses explained the importance of his second address. The verbs that he used — hear, learn, keep, do — reminded the Israelites of their responsibility in maintaining the covenant relationship with the Lord. He was, and is, to be obeyed. Moses spoke of the fact that the covenant had been given at Horeb (Sinai) to their fathers. Now the time had come for that present generation to review and renew the relationship with the Lord. To each new generation the Lord our God is the great "I am." He is relevant to all believers of all ages of every country on earth. But each new generation, each person must come to the realization of their own personal need for him.

The basis of God's covenant with Israel (v. 6). When your children were small, did you ever answer their "Why" question with, "Just because I said so." As parents who love and provide for our children, we believe we have the right to lead and direct them in their young lives. God told the Israelites his reason, his right for the commandments which they were to follow. He identified himself as "the Lord thy God." Because he had delivered them from slavery in Egypt, he had the right to expect certain behavior from them.

The covenant relating to God (vv. 7-9a, 11). Only the Lord is a personal God. When God called Abraham, his call was one of separation (Gen. 12:1-3). Abram was to leave his country, his people, his relatives, and follow God's leading. Obedience would mean that all people on earth would be blessed through him. This prophecy was fulfilled in Jesus.

God's call to the Israelites was also one of separation. People all around them worshiped many gods. The Israelites were to be different, separate in their worship. They were to worship the one and only Lord. The Lord also forbade the making or worshiping of any graven image. The third commandment prohibits the misuse of God's name. Believers are to be separate in the way we worship. Our God stands alone! He is worthy of our highest praise and devotion.

The covenant relating to the Sabbath (vv. 12-13). Every day of a Christian's life belongs to the Lord. When we set aside one day to worship him and to rest, we acknowledge that fact. I'm so glad that our pastor has led us to refer to Sunday as "the Lord's day." Too many people see it as a day to shop, swim, fish, golf, etc. It is still the day to be sanctified, set apart, for the Lord.

The covenant relating to others (vv. 16-21). The first four commandments deal with believers' relationship with the Lord. The last six tell us how to treat each other. Parents are to be honored. Murder is forbidden, as are adultery, theft, and lying. The tenth commandment, "Thou shalt not covet," is used by Paul in Romans 7:7ff to point out the necessity of the law and our need for salvation. God provided for us again in the Person of his Son.

What is the Christian's responsibility under the law? Many say, "I am under grace and not under the law." In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus went beyond the law to the spirit of the law. He taught that thoughts precede actions. "Out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander" (Matt. 15:19, NIV). With Jesus' teachings in the Sermon on the Mount and these words from Matthew 15, we realize that God's call to his people is still one of separation, of holiness, and dedication to him.

Merritt is a member of First Church, Jackson.

Life and Work Courtroom drama



By Mark A. Rathel
Isaiah 1

My favorite television programs are courtroom dramas such as "Perry Mason" and "Matlock." While courtroom drama on television is entertaining, real life court experience can be frightening. I have appeared before a judge on one occasion. I was guilty of a minor traffic violation. The judge, through his intimidating demeanor, demonstrated that he did not think the violation was minor. It is not pleasant to stand guilty before a human judge.

In his introductory vision, Isaiah describes a courtroom scene. God is the judge and the prosecutor. The nation Israel is the defendant. The prosecutor calls witnesses and reads the indictment. The judge announces the sentence.

The Holy Spirit has continued the heavenly courtroom drama up to the present moment. Every person is guilty of the same sin as Israel. The evidence presented by the prosecutor, in many cases, is the same. It is not pleasant to stand guilty before the Judge. The sentence of the divine judge, however, contains the real possibility of a pardon.

God indicts the people for rebellion (vv. 2-3). God summons the heavens and the earth to hear the reading of the indictment against God's people. God tenderly dealt with the nation as a father. As any father, God expects gratitude from his children. The people, however, responded to God's tender love with flagrant rebellion. Rebellion affected the mental and spiritual capabilities of the people; they lacked knowledge and understanding of God. God the Father became a stranger.

Animals, at times, express more intelligence than people. An ox knows his master; a donkey knows the one who provides meals. Ingratitude and rebellion are brutish attitudes.

Worship provides the evidence of guilt (vv. 12-15). Sin and guilt did not deter the people from participation in worship activities. On the contrary, worship attendance may have been higher than at any time in Israel's history. The people multiplied the occasions for celebration at the court of God: new moons, sabbath, solemn assemblies. Worship degenerated into an empty ritual that did not affect the daily life of the people. Worship devoid of influence on daily life desecrates the courts of God. The act of worship becomes an act of rebellion when it joins together iniquity and solemnness (v. 14).

In the strongest possible language, Isaiah delineated God's attitude toward worthless worship. God had enough of empty worship (v. 11). Such worship did not please him. Indeed, empty worship is utterly detestable to God (v. 13). It becomes a wearisome burden to him (v. 14). God refuses to hear the prayers of people whose hands are covered with bloodshed. You may not be guilty of physical violence against another person, but have you murdered anyone's reputation? The teachings throughout Scripture are that you cannot be rightly related to God unless you are rightly related to people.

Repentance is expressed through attitudes and actions (vv. 16-17). These two verses contain nine commands. The thought is not that the people are to set things right between themselves and God. Rather, you are to lay aside those things that have caused God's displeasure as indication of sincere repentance. The first five commands deal with inner attitudes that need to be changed. The last four commands deal with relationships and treatment of other people.

The judge offers pardon (vv. 18-20). The Hebrew word "reason" is a legal word. God calls upon sinners to stand before the judge while he details the alternatives. Two alternatives exist for guilty sinners. One alternative is forgiveness and cleansing. The Bible pictures sin as ingrained within mankind, like dye ingrained within fabrics. God offers to cleanse our sins by removing the ingrained sin. The other alternative is judgment. Disobedience leads to destruction. In the case of Israel, God promised destruction by the sword. Pardon or judgment — we choose the alternative by our response to God.

Rathel is pastor, Bay Vista Church, Biloxi.

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A portion of The Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

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Child Care Workers Mr. Rusty McKee (left) and Ms. Linda Shaver (right) speak to Mr. Doug Duncan (standing), Unit Director, Crisis Care, at a recent workshop held for Child Care Workers and Unit Directors. The Workshop, Directed by Mrs. Peggy Taylor, was conducted at Foster Cottage on our India Nunnery Campus.

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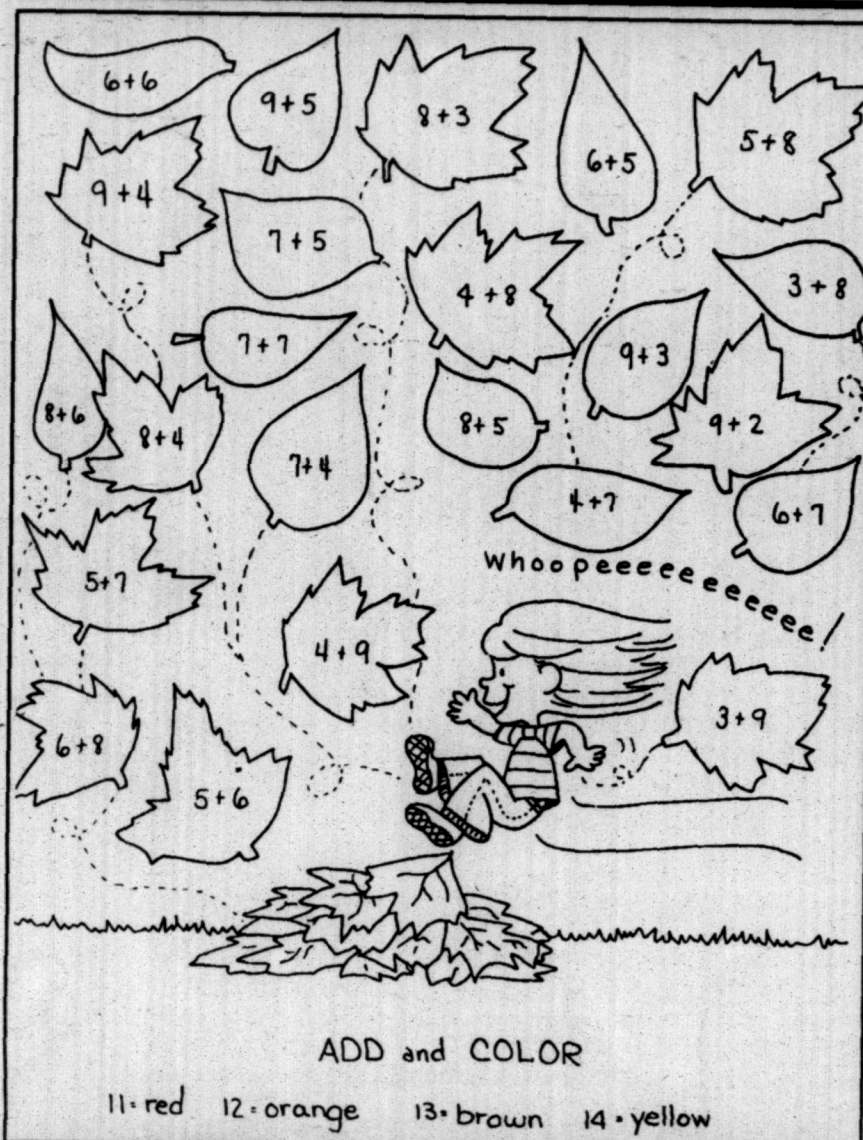
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**AUG. 1 - AUG.
31, 1993**

HONORS

CHILDREN'S PAGE



CHILDREN'S BOOK REVIEWS

There's A Duck in My Closet, by John Trent (Word Kids! Publishing, 30 pp.; 1993). Through humorous rhyme, Trent helps kids and parents laugh their way through tearful bedtime appeals. This delightful story turns a closet filled with "monsters" into a child's own personal zoo. For ages 3-7, the book is illustrated with brilliant, animated colors.

Who Am I? by Katherine

Paterson, illustrated by Stephanie Milankowski (Wm. B Eerdmans Publishing Co., 80 pp.; 1993). The author asks difficult questions that kids face as they explore their individuality: Who am I? Where do I belong? What is my purpose? Written for children ages 10-14, the book is a thoughtful, personal exploration of the meaning of life and of faith in God. Beautifully illustrated.



Last signs of summer

Mission Friends and GAs of Shivers Church, Simpson Association, recently enjoyed watermelon at the church building. Susie Rawls is WMU president.

Dear Pen Pal Club:

Hi! My name is Daphanie Hatcher. I am a girl 8 years old in the third grade at Nanih Waiya School. I attend Good Hope Baptist Church where I am active in GAs and like to sing with my Granny. I have a little cousin named T.J. I also have two dogs, Sweetie Heart and Ruff. If you would like to be my pen pal, please write me at this address: Rt. 7, Box 248, Louisville, MS 39339. Daphanie Hatcher.

Dear Pen Pal Club:

Hi! My name is Lindsey Nicole Keen. I am a girl 8 years old and in the third grade at Nanih Waiya School. I attend Good Hope Baptist Church where I like to go to GAs and sing in the choir. I have a little sister named Laney, a rabbit named Peter, a cat named Princess, and a dog named Alf. I also have a swimming pool. If you would like to be my pen pal, please write me at this address: Rt. 1, Box 295, Preston, MS 39354. Lindsey Keen

Dear Pen Pal Club:

Hi! My name is Jeanie Marie Shafer. I am a girl 8 years old and in the third grade at Nanih Waiya School. I attend Good Hope Baptist Church where I am active in GAs and like to sing in the choir. I have three brothers and two sisters: Jeremy, Michael, Drake, Nicole, and Carrie. I have three cats: Fluffy, Mini, and Misty. If you would like to be my pen pal, please write me at this address: Rt. 1, Box 409, Preston, MS 39354. Jeanie Shafer

Dear Pen Pal Club:

Hi! My name is Courtnee DeAnn Graham. I am a girl 8 years old and in the third grade at Nanih Waiya School. I attend Good Hope Baptist Church where I am active in GAs and like to sing in the choir. I have a little brother, Hailey, and four other brothers. I have a horse that is beautiful, a cat, and a dalmation. If you would like to be my pen pal, please write me at this address: Rt. 1, Box 364-A, Preston, MS 39354. Courtnee Graham

Dear Pen Pal Club:

Hi! My name is Brittney Denise Miles. I am a girl 7 years old and in the second grade at Nanih Waiya School. I attend Good Hope Baptist Church where



Pen Pal Club

I am active in GAs. I have two brothers, Josh and Dusty. I have two horses, Daisy and Candy. If you would like to be my pen pal, please write me at this address: Rt. 3, Box 241, Louisville, MS 39339. Brittney Miles

Dear Pen Pal Club:

Hi! My name is Keisha Kristopher Fulcher. I am a girl 7 years old and in the second grade at Nanih Waiya School. I attend Ellison Ridge Baptist Church. I have a brother named Shawn and a step-sister, Laken. I have four dogs, seven horses, three cows, and three cats. If you would like to be my pen pal, please write me at this address: Rt. 7, Box 151, Louisville, MS 39339. Keisha Fulcher

Dear Pen Pal Club:

Hi! My name is Hayley Slawson. I am a girl 7 years old and in the second grade at Nanih Waiya School. I attend Harmony Baptist Church. I have a little brother, Andy. I also have a cat named Missy, and a kitten named Snow. If you would like to be my pen pal, please write me at this address: Rt. 7, Box 238, Louisville, MS 39339. Hayley Slawson

Dear Pen Pal Club:

Hi! My name is Toby Lee. I am a boy 7 years old in the second grade at Nanih Waiya School. I attend Good Hope Baptist Church. I have a sister named Brittney. I also have a cat named China. I like to go fishing with my Granddaddy. If you would like to be my pen pal, please write me at this address: Rt. 7, Box 200, Louisville, MS 39339. Toby Lee

Dear Pen Pal Club:

Hi! My name is Kristie Ann Melton. I am a girl 8 years old and in the third grade at Nanih Waiya School. I attend Good Hope Bap-

tist Church where I am active in GAs. I have a dog named T and two kittens named Fluffy and Kelly. If you would like to be my pen pal, please write me at this address: Rt. 1, Box 46S, Preston, MS 39354.

Kristie Melton

Dear Pen Pal Club:

Hi! My name is Amber Lee. I am a girl 8 years old and in the third grade at Nanih Waiya School. I attend Good Hope Baptist Church where I am active in GAs and sing in the choir. I have a sister named Cameron and a brother named Patrick. I have a dog, and cat named Samantha. If you would like to be my pen pal, please write me at this address: Rt. 3, Box 20AA, Louisville, MS 39339.

Amber Lee

Dear Pen Pal Club:

Hi! My name is Jessica Alayne Creekmore. I am a girl 8 years old and in the third grade at Nanih Waiya School. I attend Good Hope Baptist Church where I am active in GAs and sing in the choir. I've got four horses — Spicy, Easy, Sugar, and White Socks, a dog named Roxie, a cat named Fluffy, and a rabbit named Cottontail. If you would like to be my pen pal, please write me at this address: Rt. 7, Box 293B, Louisville, MS 39339.

Jessica Creekmore

Dear Pen Pal Club:

I am 11 years old. I would like a boy or girl to be my pen pal. Please send a picture. Rt. 1, Box 444, C 9930. Linda J

Bibliocipher

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JKU XUIL EX JKU TELM OG JKU NUSORRORS EX
BREFTUMSU; NAJ XEETG MUGZOGU FOGMEP IRM
ORGJLAWJOER. ZLEDULNG ERU: GUDUR

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: John Thirteen: Thirty-Four.

Baptist Record

291 10-07
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October 7, 1993